

1 AN ACT relating to the Teachers' Retirement System.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 161.220 TO 161.710 IS CREATED
4 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) Individuals who become nonuniversity members of the Teachers' Retirement*
6 *System on or after January 1, 2022, shall be provided a foundational plan, which*
7 *shall be known as the foundational benefit component, a supplemental benefit*
8 *component established by Section 3 of this Act, and retiree health benefits as*
9 *provided by KRS 161.675. For purposes of this section, the foundational benefit*
10 *component includes all benefits provided by KRS 161.220 to 161.716 for*
11 *individuals who become nonuniversity members of the Teachers' Retirement*
12 *System on or after January 1, 2022, with the exception of the supplemental*
13 *benefit component established by Section 3 of this Act and retiree health benefits*
14 *established by KRS 161.675.*

15 *(2) Notwithstanding KRS 161.220 to 161.716, the actuary designated by the board of*
16 *trustees under Section 12 of this Act shall, as part of the annual valuation of the*
17 *pension fund, assess the funding levels, unfunded liabilities, and the actuarially*
18 *required employer contribution rates payable solely on behalf of individuals who*
19 *first become nonuniversity members on or after January 1, 2022. Computation of*
20 *the employer contribution rate payable shall be based upon amortizing unfunded*
21 *liabilities using the level-dollar amortization method.*

22 *(3) If, on the basis of the valuation assessment required under subsection (2) of this*
23 *section, the funding level for the foundational benefit component payable on*
24 *behalf of individuals who first become nonuniversity members on or after*
25 *January 1, 2022, falls below ninety percent (90%), the board shall,*
26 *notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 to the contrary,*
27 *make one (1) or more of the following changes to maintain the funding level and*

1 to contain pension and life insurance benefit costs within the maximum statutory
2 employer contribution rate for the foundational benefit component of eight
3 percent (8%) of annual compensation as provided by subsection (1)(d)1. of
4 Section 8 of this Act:

5 (a) Utilize moneys from the stabilization reserve account for nonuniversity
6 membership and employers established by subsection (10)(a) of Section 13
7 of this Act;

8 (b) Utilize prospective mandatory employee and employer contributions to the
9 supplemental benefit component as provided by Section 3 of this Act to
10 provide funding for the foundational benefit component; or

11 (c) Prospectively adjust for individuals who become nonuniversity members on
12 or after January 1, 2022, one (1) or more of the following parts of the
13 foundational benefit component:

14 1. Regular interest rate established by subsection (13)(c) of Section 6 of
15 this Act;

16 2. The retirement factors established by subsection (1)(f) of Section 10 of
17 this Act;

18 3. The age and service requirements to retire as established by subsection
19 (2) of Section 9 of this Act;

20 4. The cost-of-living adjustment established by subsection (2) of Section
21 10 of this Act; or

22 5. The age and service requirements and the retirement allowance
23 provided during the entitlement period under Section 37 of this Act.

24 Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 to the
25 contrary, the board of trustees may utilize any and all of the above
26 adjustments at any time on all individuals who become nonuniversity
27 members on or after January 1, 2022, in order to maintain the funding level

1 of the foundational benefit component and employer costs as provided by
2 this subsection.

3 (4) For purposes of this section, "funding level" means the actuarial value of assets
4 divided by the actuarially accrued liability expressed as a percentage that is
5 determined and reported by the system's actuary in the system's actuarial
6 valuation.

7 (5) This section shall only apply to individuals who became nonuniversity members
8 of the Teachers' Retirement System on or after January 1, 2022.

9 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 161.220 TO 161.710 IS CREATED
10 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

11 (1) Individuals who become university members of the Teachers' Retirement System
12 on or after January 1, 2022, shall be provided a foundational plan, which shall
13 be known as the foundational benefit component, a supplemental benefit
14 component established by Section 4 of this Act, and retiree health benefits as
15 provided by KRS 161.675. For purposes of this section, the foundational benefit
16 component includes all benefits provided by KRS 161.220 to 161.716 for
17 individuals who become university members of the Teachers' Retirement System
18 on or after January 1, 2022, with the exception of the supplemental benefit
19 component established by Section 4 of this Act and retiree health benefits
20 established by KRS 161.675.

21 (2) Notwithstanding KRS 161.220 to 161.716, the actuary designated by the board of
22 trustees under Section 12 of this Act shall, as part of the annual valuation of the
23 pension fund, assess the funding levels, unfunded liabilities, and the actuarially
24 required employer contribution rates payable solely on behalf of individuals who
25 first become university members on or after January 1, 2022. Computation of the
26 employer contribution rate payable shall be based upon amortizing unfunded
27 liabilities using the level-dollar amortization method.

- 1 (3) If, on the basis of the valuation assessment required under subsection (2) of this
2 section, the funding level for the foundational benefit component payable on
3 behalf of individuals who first become university members on or after January 1,
4 2022, falls below ninety percent (90%), the board shall, notwithstanding any
5 other provision of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 to the contrary, make one (1) or more
6 of the following changes to maintain the funding level and to contain pension
7 and life insurance benefit costs within the maximum statutory employer
8 contribution rate for the foundational benefit component of five and seven
9 hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (5.775%) of annual compensation as
10 provided by subsection (1)(e)1. of Section 8 of this Act:
- 11 (a) Utilize moneys from the stabilization reserve account for university
12 membership and employers established by subsection (10)(b) of Section 13
13 of this Act;
- 14 (b) Utilize prospective mandatory employee and employer contributions to the
15 supplemental benefit component as provided by Section 4 of this Act to
16 provide funding for the foundational benefit component; or
- 17 (c) Prospectively adjust for individuals who become university members on or
18 after January 1, 2022, one (1) or more of the following parts of the
19 foundational benefit component:
- 20 1. Regular interest rate established by subsection (13)(c) of Section 6 of
21 this Act;
- 22 2. The retirement factors established by subsection (1)(g) of Section 10 of
23 this Act;
- 24 3. The age and service requirements to retire as established by subsection
25 (2) of Section 9 of this Act;
- 26 4. The cost-of-living adjustment established by subsection (2) of Section
27 10 of this Act; or

1 5. The age and service requirements and the retirement allowance
 2 provided during the entitlement period under Section 37 of this Act.
 3 Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 to the
 4 contrary, the board of trustees may utilize any and all of the above
 5 adjustments at any time on all individuals who become university members
 6 on or after January 1, 2022, in order to maintain the funding level of the
 7 foundational benefit component and employer costs as provided by this
 8 subsection.

9 (4) For purposes of this section, "funding level" means the actuarial value of assets
 10 divided by the actuarially accrued liability expressed as a percentage that is
 11 determined and reported by the system's actuary in the system's actuarial
 12 valuation.

13 (5) This section shall only apply to individuals who became university members of
 14 the Teachers' Retirement System on or after January 1, 2022.

15 ➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 161.220 TO 161.710 IS CREATED
 16 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

17 (1) An individual who becomes a nonuniversity member of the Teachers' Retirement
 18 System on or after January 1, 2022, shall receive the retirement benefits provided
 19 by this section in addition to the retirement benefits provided under Section 10 of
 20 this Act. The retirement benefits provided by this section shall be known as the
 21 supplemental benefit component.

22 (2) The supplemental benefit component shall provide a benefit based upon a
 23 member's accumulated account balance which shall include:

24 (a) Mandatory contributions made by the member as provided by subsection
 25 (1)(c)2. of Section 7 of this Act;

26 (b) Voluntary contributions made by the member, which may include lump-
 27 sum payments;

- 1 (c) Mandatory contributions made by the employer as provided by subsection
2 (1)(d)2. of Section 8 of this Act;
- 3 (d) Voluntary employer contributions; and
- 4 (e) Regular interest, which shall be credited to the member's account annually
5 on June 30 of each fiscal year, by multiplying the member's accumulated
6 account balance in the supplemental benefit component on June 30 of the
7 preceding fiscal year by the regular interest rate.
- 8 (3) (a) Member contributions and employer contributions as provided by
9 subsection (2)(a) to (d) of this section shall be credited to the member's
10 account at least monthly as contributions are reported and posted to the
11 system in accordance with KRS 161.560.
- 12 (b) No employer contributions or interest shall be provided to a member who
13 has taken a refund of his or her accumulated account balance as provided
14 by Section 14 of this Act or who has retired and annuitized his or her
15 accumulated account balance as authorized by this section.
- 16 (4) (a) Upon termination of employment, a member who has less than five (5)
17 years of service credited under Section 16 of this Act, who elects to take a
18 refund of his or her accumulated account balance as provided by Section 14
19 of this Act, shall forfeit the accumulated employer contribution, and shall
20 only receive a refund of his or her accumulated contributions.
- 21 (b) Upon termination of employment, a member who has five (5) or more years
22 of service credited under Section 16 of this Act, who elects to take a refund
23 of his or her accumulated account balance as provided by Section 14 of this
24 Act, shall receive a full refund of his or her accumulated account balance.
- 25 (5) A nonuniversity member eligible to retire under subsection (2) of Section 9 of this
26 Act may upon retirement, in addition to the other benefits provided by Section 10
27 of this Act, elect to:

1 (a) Have his or her accumulated account balance in the supplemental benefit
 2 component annuitized into a lifetime monthly retirement allowance by the
 3 system in accordance with the actuarial assumptions and actuarial methods
 4 adopted by the board for the supplemental benefit component and in effect
 5 on the member's retirement date;

6 (b) Receive the actuarial equivalent of his or her retirement allowance
 7 calculated under paragraph (a) of this subsection payable under one (1) of
 8 the options established by the board pursuant to Section 36 of this Act;

9 (c) Take a distribution of the accumulated account balance in the supplemental
 10 benefit component over a period certain as authorized by the board; or

11 (d) Take a full or partial refund of his or her accumulated account balance as
 12 provided by Section 14 of this Act.

13 A member participating in the supplemental benefit component shall not be
 14 required to take a distribution or annuitize his or her accumulated account
 15 balance in the supplemental benefit component when he or she begins drawing a
 16 retirement allowance from the foundational benefit component and may instead
 17 choose to begin drawing a distribution or annuitize his or her accumulated
 18 account balance in the supplemental benefit component at any date following his
 19 or her retirement date from the foundational benefit component.

20 (6) This section only applies to individuals who become nonuniversity members of
 21 the Teachers' Retirement System on or after January 1, 2022.

22 (7) The board of trustees shall have the authority to utilize or establish any plan or
 23 plans authorized under the Internal Revenue Code to provide the benefits set
 24 forth in this section.

25 ➔SECTION 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 161.220 TO 161.710 IS CREATED
 26 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

27 (1) An individual who becomes a university member of the Teachers' Retirement

1 System on or after January 1, 2022, shall receive the retirement benefits provided
2 by this section in addition to the retirement benefits provided under Section 10 of
3 this Act. The retirement benefits provided by this section shall be known as the
4 supplemental benefit component.

5 (2) The supplemental benefit component shall provide a benefit based upon a
6 member's accumulated account balance which shall include:

7 (a) Mandatory contributions made by the member as provided by subsection
8 (1)(d)2. of Section 7 of this Act;

9 (b) Voluntary contributions made by the member, which may include lump-
10 sum payments;

11 (c) Mandatory contributions made by the employer as provided by subsection
12 (1)(e)2. of Section 8 of this Act;

13 (d) Voluntary employer contributions; and

14 (e) Regular interest, which shall be credited to the member's account annually
15 on June 30 of each fiscal year, by multiplying the member's accumulated
16 account balance in the supplemental benefit component on June 30 of the
17 preceding fiscal year by the regular interest rate.

18 (3) (a) Member contributions and employer contributions as provided by
19 subsection (2)(a) to (d) of this section shall be credited to the member's
20 account at least monthly as contributions are reported and posted to the
21 system in accordance with KRS 161.560.

22 (b) No employer contributions or interest shall be provided to a member who
23 has taken a refund of his or her accumulated account balance as provided
24 by Section 14 of this Act or who has retired and annuitized his or her
25 accumulated account balance as authorized by this section.

26 (4) (a) Upon termination of employment, a member who has less than five (5)
27 years of service credited under Section 16 of this Act, who elects to take a

1 refund of his or her accumulated account balance as provided by Section 14
2 of this Act, shall forfeit the accumulated employer contribution, and shall
3 only receive a refund of his or her accumulated contributions.

4 (b) Upon termination of employment, a member who has five (5) or more years
5 of service credited under Section 16 of this Act, who elects to take a refund
6 of his or her accumulated account balance as provided by Section 14 of this
7 Act, shall receive a full refund of his or her accumulated account balance.

8 (5) A university member eligible to retire under subsection (2) of Section 9 of this Act
9 may upon retirement, in addition to the other benefits provided by Section 10 of
10 this Act, elect to:

11 (a) Have his or her accumulated account balance in the supplemental benefit
12 component annuitized into a lifetime monthly retirement allowance by the
13 system in accordance with the actuarial assumptions and actuarial methods
14 adopted by the board for the supplemental benefit component and in effect
15 on the member's retirement date;

16 (b) Receive the actuarial equivalent of his or her retirement allowance
17 calculated under paragraph (a) of this subsection payable under one (1) of
18 the options established by the board pursuant to Section 36 of this Act;

19 (c) Take a distribution of the accumulated account balance in the supplemental
20 benefit component over a period certain as authorized by the board; or

21 (d) Take a full or partial refund of his or her accumulated account balance as
22 provided by Section 14 of this Act.

23 A member participating in the supplemental benefit component shall not be
24 required to take a distribution or annuitize his or her accumulated account
25 balance in the supplemental benefit component when he or she begins drawing a
26 retirement allowance from the foundational benefit component and may instead
27 choose to begin drawing a distribution or annuitize his or her accumulated

1 account balance in the supplemental benefit component at any date following his
 2 or her retirement date from the foundational benefit component.

3 (6) This section only applies to individuals who become university members of the
 4 Teachers' Retirement System on or after January 1, 2022.

5 (7) The board of trustees shall have the authority to utilize or establish any plan or
 6 plans authorized under the Internal Revenue Code to provide the benefits set
 7 forth in this section.

8 ➔Section 5. KRS 161.155 is amended to read as follows:

- 9 (1) As used in this section:
- 10 (a) "Teacher" shall mean any person for whom certification is required as a basis
 11 of employment in the common schools of the state;
- 12 (b) "Employee" shall mean any person, other than a teacher, employed in the
 13 public schools, whether on a full or part-time basis;
- 14 (c) "Immediate family" shall mean the teacher's or employee's spouse, children
 15 including stepchildren and foster children, grandchildren, daughters-in-law
 16 and sons-in law, brothers and sisters, parents and spouse's parents, and
 17 grandparents and spouse's grandparents, without reference to the location or
 18 residence of said relative, and any other blood relative who resides in the
 19 teacher's or employee's home;
- 20 (d) "Sick leave bank" shall mean an aggregation of sick leave days contributed by
 21 teachers or employees for use by teachers or employees who have exhausted
 22 all sick leave and other available paid leave days; and
- 23 (e) "Assault" shall mean an act that intentionally causes injury so significant that
 24 the victim is determined to be, by certification of a physician or surgeon duly
 25 qualified under KRS Chapter 342, incapable of performing the duties of his or
 26 her job.
- 27 (2) Each district board of education shall allow to each teacher and full-time employee

1 in its common school system not less than ten (10) days of sick leave during each
2 school year, without deduction of salary. Sick leave shall be granted to a teacher or
3 employee if he or she presents a personal affidavit or a certificate of a physician
4 stating that the teacher or employee was ill, that the teacher or employee was absent
5 for the purpose of attending to a member of his or her immediate family who was
6 ill, or for the purpose of mourning a member of his or her immediate family. The
7 ten (10) days of sick leave granted in this subsection may be taken by a teacher or
8 employee on any ten (10) days of the school year and shall be granted in addition to
9 accumulated sick leave days that have been credited to the teacher or employee
10 under the provisions of subsection (4) of this section.

11 (3) A school district shall coordinate among the income and benefits from workers'
12 compensation, temporary disability retirement, and district payroll and benefits so
13 that there is no loss of income or benefits to a teacher or employee for work time
14 lost because of an assault while performing the teacher's or employee's assigned
15 duties for a period of up to one (1) year after the assault. In the event a teacher or
16 employee suffers an assault while performing his or her assigned duties that results
17 in injuries that qualify the teacher or employee for workers' compensation benefits,
18 the district shall provide leave to the teacher or employee for up to one (1) year after
19 the assault with no loss of income or benefits under the following conditions:

20 (a) The district shall pay the salary of the teacher or employee between the time
21 of the assault and the time the teacher's or employee's workers' compensation
22 income benefits take effect, or the time the teacher or employee is certified to
23 return to work by a physician or surgeon duly qualified under KRS Chapter
24 342, whichever is sooner;

25 (b) The district shall pay, for up to one (1) year from the time of the assault, the
26 difference between the salary of the teacher or employee and any workers'
27 compensation income benefits received by the teacher or employee resulting

1 from the assault. Payments by the district shall include payments for
2 intermittent work time missed as a result of the assault during the one (1) year
3 period. If the teacher's or employee's workers' compensation income benefits
4 cease during the one (1) year period after the assault, the district shall also
5 cease to make payments under this paragraph;

6 (c) The Commonwealth, through the Kentucky Department of Education, shall
7 make the employer's health insurance contribution during the period that the
8 district makes payments under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection;

9 (d) The Commonwealth, through the Kentucky Department of Education, shall
10 make the employer's contribution to the retirement system in which the
11 teacher or employee is a member during the period that the district makes
12 payments under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection; and

13 (e) Payments to a teacher or employee under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this
14 subsection shall be coordinated with workers' compensation benefits under
15 KRS Chapter 342, disability retirement benefits for teachers under KRS
16 161.661 to 161.663, and disability retirement benefits for employees under
17 KRS 61.600 to 61.621 and 78.545 so that the teacher or employee receives
18 income equivalent to his or her full contracted salary, but in no event shall the
19 combined payments exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the teacher's or
20 employee's full contracted salary.

21 (4) Days of sick leave not taken by an employee or a teacher during any school year
22 shall accumulate without limitation and be credited to that employee or teacher.
23 Accumulated sick leave may be taken in any school year. Any district board of
24 education may, in its discretion, allow employees or teachers in its common school
25 system sick leave in excess of the number of days prescribed in this section and may
26 allow school district employees and teachers to use up to three (3) days' sick leave
27 per school year for emergency leave pursuant to KRS 161.152(3). Any accumulated

1 sick leave days credited to an employee or a teacher shall remain so credited in the
2 event he or she transfers his or her place of employment from one (1) school district
3 to another within the state or to the Kentucky Department of Education or transfers
4 from the Department of Education to a school district.

5 (5) Accumulated days of sick leave shall be granted to a teacher or employee if, prior to
6 the opening day of the school year, an affidavit or a certificate of a physician is
7 presented to the district board of education, stating that the teacher or employee is
8 unable to commence his or her duties on the opening day of the school year, but will
9 be able to assume his or her duties within a period of time that the board determines
10 to be reasonable.

11 (6) Any school teacher or employee may repurchase previously used sick leave days
12 with the concurrence of the local school board by paying to the district an amount
13 equal to the total of all costs associated with the used sick leave.

14 (7) A district board of education may adopt a plan for a sick leave bank. The plan may
15 include limitations upon the number of days a teacher or employee may annually
16 contribute to the bank and limitations upon the number of days a teacher or
17 employee may annually draw from the bank. Only those teachers or employees who
18 contribute to the bank may draw upon the bank. Days contributed will be deducted
19 from the days available to the contributing teacher or employee. The sick leave bank
20 shall be administered in accordance with a policy adopted by the board of
21 education.

22 (8) (a) A district board of education shall establish a sick leave donation program to
23 permit teachers or employees to voluntarily contribute sick leave to teachers
24 or employees in the same school district who are in need of an extended
25 absence from school. A teacher or employee who has accrued more than
26 fifteen (15) days' sick leave may request the board of education to transfer a
27 designated amount of sick leave to another teacher or employee who is

1 authorized to receive the sick leave donated. A teacher or employee may not
2 request an amount of sick leave be donated that reduces his or her sick leave
3 balance to less than fifteen (15) days.

4 (b) A teacher or employee may receive donations of sick leave if:

5 1. a. The teacher or employee or a member of his or her immediate
6 family suffers from a medically certified illness, injury,
7 impairment, or physical or mental condition that has caused or is
8 likely to cause the teacher or employee to be absent for at least ten
9 (10) days; or

10 b. The teacher or employee suffers from a catastrophic loss to his or
11 her personal or real property, due to either a natural disaster or fire,
12 that either has caused or will likely cause the employee to be
13 absent for at least ten (10) consecutive working days;

14 2. The teacher's or employee's need for the absence and use of leave are
15 certified by a licensed physician for leave requested under subparagraph
16 1.a. of this subsection;

17 3. The teacher or employee has exhausted his or her accumulated sick
18 leave, personal leave, and any other leave granted by the school district;
19 and

20 4. The teacher or employee has complied with the school district's policies
21 governing the use of sick leave.

22 (c) While a teacher or employee is on sick leave provided by this section, he or
23 she shall be considered a school district employee, and his or her salary,
24 wages, and other employee benefits shall not be affected.

25 (d) Any sick leave that remains unused, is not needed by a teacher or employee,
26 and will not be needed in the future shall be returned to the teacher or
27 employee donating the sick leave.

1 (e) The board of education shall adopt policies and procedures necessary to
2 implement the sick leave donation program.

3 (9) A teacher or employee may use up to thirty (30) days of sick leave following the
4 birth or adoption of a child or children. Additional days may be used when the need
5 is verified by a physician's statement.

6 (10) (a) After July 1, 1982, ~~[and except as otherwise provided by this subsection,]~~ a
7 district board of education may compensate, at the time of retirement or upon
8 the death of a member in active contributing status at the time of death who
9 was eligible to retire by reason of service, an employee or a teacher, or the
10 estate of an employee or teacher, for each unused sick leave day. The rate of
11 compensation for each unused sick leave day shall be based on a percentage of
12 the daily salary rate calculated from the employee's or teacher's last annual
13 salary, not to exceed thirty percent (30%).

14 **(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection,** payment for unused
15 sick leave days **under this subsection**, ~~[, not to exceed the amount based upon~~
16 ~~the unused sick leave days accrued as of December 31, 2018,]~~ shall be
17 incorporated into the **annual salary** ~~[annual compensation]~~ of the final year of
18 service for inclusion in the calculation of the employee's or teacher's
19 retirement allowance only at the time of his or her initial retirement, ~~[;]~~
20 provided that the member makes the regular retirement contribution for
21 members on the sick leave payment. The accumulation of these days includes
22 unused sick leave days held by the employee or teacher at the time of
23 implementation of the program.

24 **(c) For a teacher or employee who becomes a nonuniversity member of the**
25 **Teachers' Retirement System on or after January 1, 2022, as provided by**
26 **Section 6 of this Act, payment for unused sick leave days under this**
27 **subsection shall not be incorporated into the annual compensation used to**

1 calculate the teacher's or employee's retirement allowance in the
 2 foundational benefit component as described by Section 1 of this Act but
 3 may be deposited into the nonuniversity member's supplemental benefit
 4 component as provided by Section 3 of this Act.

5 ~~(d)~~~~(b)~~ For a teacher or employee who begins employment with a local school
 6 district on or after July 1, 2008, the maximum amount of unused sick leave
 7 days a district board of education may recognize in calculating the payment of
 8 compensation to the teacher or employee under this subsection shall not
 9 exceed three hundred (300) days.

10 (11) Any statute to the contrary notwithstanding, employees and teachers who
 11 transferred from the Department of Education to a school district, from a school
 12 district to the Department of Education, or from one (1) school district to another
 13 school district after July 15, 1981, shall receive credit for any unused sick leave to
 14 which the employee or teacher was entitled on the date of transfer. This credit shall
 15 be for the purposes set forth in subsection (10) of this section.

16 (12) The death benefit provided in subsection (10) of this section may be cited as the
 17 Baughn Benefit.

18 ➔Section 6. KRS 161.220 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

19 As used in KRS 161.220 to 161.716 and 161.990:

20 (1) "Retirement system" means the arrangement provided for in KRS 161.220 to
 21 161.716 and 161.990 for payment of allowances to members;

22 (2) "Retirement allowance" means the amount annually payable during the course of his
 23 natural life to a member who has been retired by reason of service;

24 (3) "Disability allowance" means the amount annually payable to a member retired by
 25 reason of disability;

26 (4) "Member" means the commissioner of education, deputy commissioners, associate
 27 commissioners, and all division directors in the State Department of Education,

1 employees participating in the system pursuant to KRS 196.167(3)(b)1., and any
2 full-time teacher or professional occupying a position requiring certification or
3 graduation from a four (4) year college or university, as a condition of employment,
4 and who is employed by public boards, institutions, or agencies as follows:

5 (a) Local boards of education;

6 (b) Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State
7 University, Murray State University, Western Kentucky University, and any
8 community colleges established under the control of these universities;

9 (c) State-operated secondary area vocational education or area technology centers,
10 Kentucky School for the Blind, and Kentucky School for the Deaf;

11 (d) The Education Professional Standards Board, other public education agencies
12 as created by the General Assembly, and those members of the administrative
13 staff of the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Kentucky whom the
14 board of trustees may designate by administrative regulation;

15 (e) Regional cooperative organizations formed by local boards of education or
16 other public educational institutions listed in this subsection, for the purpose
17 of providing educational services to the participating organizations;

18 (f) All full-time members of the staffs of the Kentucky Association of School
19 Administrators, Kentucky Education Association, Kentucky Vocational
20 Association, Kentucky High School Athletic Association, Kentucky Academic
21 Association, and the Kentucky School Boards Association who were members
22 of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System or were qualified for a position
23 covered by the system at the time of employment by the association in the
24 event that the board of directors of the respective association petitions to be
25 included. The board of trustees of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
26 may designate by resolution whether part-time employees of the petitioning
27 association are to be included~~[, except as limited by KRS 161.612].~~ The state

1 shall make no contributions on account of these employees, either full-time or
2 part-time. The association shall make the employer's contributions, including
3 any contribution that is specified under KRS 161.550. The provisions of this
4 paragraph shall be applicable to persons in the employ of the associations on
5 or subsequent to July 1, 1972;

6 (g) Employees of the Council on Postsecondary Education who were employees
7 of the Department for Adult Education and Literacy and who were members
8 of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System at the time the department was
9 transferred to the council pursuant to Executive Order 2003-600;

10 (h) The Office of Career and Technical Education, except that the executive
11 director shall not be a member;

12 (i) The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation;

13 (j) The Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children;

14 (k) The Governor's Scholars Program;

15 (l) Any person who is retired for service from the retirement system and is
16 reemployed by an employer identified in this subsection in a position that the
17 board of trustees deems to be a member~~], except that any person who retires~~
18 ~~on or after January 1, 2019, shall upon reemployment after retirement not earn~~
19 ~~a second retirement account];~~

20 (m) Employees of the former Cabinet for Workforce Development who are
21 transferred to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and
22 who occupy positions covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
23 shall remain in the Teachers' Retirement System. New employees occupying
24 these positions, as well as newly created positions qualifying for Teachers'
25 Retirement System coverage that would have previously been included in the
26 former Cabinet for Workforce Development, shall be members of the
27 Teachers' Retirement System;

- 1 (n) Effective January 1, 1998, employees of state community colleges who are
2 transferred to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System shall
3 continue to participate in federal old age, survivors, disability, and hospital
4 insurance, and a retirement plan other than the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
5 System offered by Kentucky Community and Technical College System. New
6 employees occupying positions in the Kentucky Community and Technical
7 College System as referenced in KRS 164.5807(5) that would not have
8 previously been included in the former Cabinet for Workforce Development,
9 shall participate in federal old age, survivors, disability, and hospital insurance
10 and have a choice at the time of employment of participating in a retirement
11 plan provided by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System,
12 including participation in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, on the
13 same basis as faculty of the state universities as provided in KRS ~~[161.235,]~~
14 161.540~~[,]~~ and 161.620;
- 15 (o) Employees of the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Budget and
16 Administrative Services, and the Office of Quality and Human Resources
17 within the Office of the Secretary of the former Cabinet for Workforce
18 Development and the commissioners of the former Department for Adult
19 Education and Literacy and the former Department for Technical Education
20 who were contributing to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System as of
21 July 15, 2000;
- 22 (p) Employees of the Kentucky Department of Education only who are graduates
23 of a four (4) year college or university, notwithstanding a substitution clause
24 within a job classification, and who are serving in a professional job
25 classification as defined by the department;
- 26 (q) The Governor's School for Entrepreneurs Program; and
- 27 (r) Employees of the Office of Adult Education within the Department of

1 Workforce Investment in the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet
2 who were employees of the Council on Postsecondary Education, Kentucky
3 Adult Education Program and who were members of the Kentucky Teachers'
4 Retirement System at the time the Program was transferred to the cabinet
5 pursuant to Executive Orders 2019-0026 and 2019-0027.

6 (5) "Present teacher" means any teacher who was a teacher on or before July 1, 1940,
7 and became a member of the retirement system created by 1938 (1st Extra. Sess.)
8 Ky. Acts ch. 1, on the date of the inauguration of the system or within one (1) year
9 after that date, and any teacher who was a member of a local teacher retirement
10 system in the public elementary or secondary schools of the state on or before July
11 1, 1940, and continued to be a member of the system until he, with the membership
12 of the local retirement system, became a member of the state Teachers' Retirement
13 System or who becomes a member under the provisions of KRS 161.470(4);

14 (6) "New teacher" means any member not a present teacher;

15 (7) "Prior service" means the number of years during which the member was a teacher
16 in Kentucky prior to July 1, 1941, except that not more than thirty (30) years' prior
17 service shall be allowed or credited to any teacher;

18 (8) "Subsequent service" means the number of years during which the teacher is a
19 member of the Teachers' Retirement System after July 1, 1941;

20 (9) "Final average salary" means the average of the five (5) highest annual salaries
21 which the member has received for service in a covered position and on which the
22 member has made contributions, or on which the public board, institution, or
23 agency has picked-up member contributions pursuant to KRS 161.540(2), or the
24 average of the five (5) years of highest salaries as defined in KRS 61.680(2)(a),
25 which shall include picked-up member contributions. Additionally, the board of
26 trustees may approve a final average salary based upon the average of the three (3)
27 highest salaries for individuals who become members prior to January 1, 2022,

1 who are at least fifty-five (55) years of age and have a minimum of twenty-seven
2 (27) years of Kentucky service credit. However, if any of the five (5) or three (3)
3 highest annual salaries used to calculate the final average salary was paid within the
4 three (3) years immediately prior to the date of the member's retirement, the amount
5 of salary to be included for each of those three (3) years for the purpose of
6 calculating the final average salary shall be limited to the lesser of:

- 7 (a) The member's actual salary; or
8 (b) The member's annual salary that was used for retirement purposes during each
9 of the prior three (3) years, plus a percentage increase equal to the percentage
10 increase received by all other members employed by the public board,
11 institution, or agency, or for members of school districts, the highest
12 percentage increase received by members on any one (1) rank and step of the
13 salary schedule of the school district. The increase shall be computed on the
14 salary that was used for retirement purposes.

15 This limitation shall not apply if the member receives an increase in salary in a
16 percentage exceeding that received by the other members, and this increase was
17 accompanied by a corresponding change in position or in length of employment.

18 This limitation shall also not apply to the payment to a member for accrued annual
19 leave if the individual becomes a member before July 1, 2008, or accrued sick leave
20 which is authorized by statute and which shall, for individuals subject to
21 subsection (10) of Section 5 of this Act who became nonuniversity members of
22 the system prior to January 1, 2022, be included as part of a retiring member's
23 annual compensation for the member's last year of active service~~as provided by~~
24 ~~KRS 161.155~~];

- 25 (10) "Annual compensation" means the total salary received by a member as
26 compensation for all services performed in employment covered by the retirement
27 system during a fiscal year. Annual compensation shall not include payment for any

1 benefit or salary adjustments made by the public board, institution, or agency to
2 member or on behalf of the member which is not available as a benefit or salary
3 adjustment to other members employed by that public board, institution, or agency.
4 Annual compensation shall not include the salary supplement received by a member
5 under KRS 157.197(2)(c), 158.6455, or 158.782 on or after July 1, 1996. Under no
6 circumstances shall annual compensation include compensation that is earned by a
7 member while on assignment to an organization or agency that is not a public board,
8 institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section. In the event that federal
9 law requires that a member continue membership in the retirement system even
10 though the member is on assignment to an organization or agency that is not a
11 public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section, the
12 member's annual compensation for retirement purposes shall be deemed to be the
13 annual compensation, as limited by subsection (9) of this section, last earned by the
14 member while still employed solely by and providing services directly to a public
15 board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section. The board of
16 trustees shall determine if any benefit or salary adjustment qualifies as annual
17 compensation. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008,
18 annual compensation shall not include lump-sum payments upon termination of
19 employment for accumulated annual or compensatory leave;

20 (11) "Age of member" means the age attained on the first day of the month immediately
21 following the birthdate of the member. This definition is limited to retirement
22 eligibility and does not apply to tenure of members;

23 (12) "Employ," and derivatives thereof, means relationships under which an individual
24 provides services to an employer as an employee, as an independent contractor, as
25 an employee of a third party, or under any other arrangement as long as the services
26 provided to the employer are provided in a position that would otherwise be covered
27 by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and as long as the services are being

1 provided to a public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this
2 section;

3 (13) "Regular interest" means:

4 **(a) For an individual who becomes a member prior to July 1, 2008,** interest at
5 three percent (3%) per annum;~~[-, except]:~~

6 **(b)(a)** For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008, but
7 prior to January 1, **2022**~~[2019]~~, ~~["regular interest" means]~~ interest at two and
8 one-half percent (2.5%) per annum for purposes of crediting interest to the
9 teacher savings account or any other contributions made by the employee that
10 are refundable to the employee upon termination of employment; and

11 **(c)(b)** For an individual who becomes a member on or after January 1,
12 **2022**~~[2019]~~, ~~[who is participating in the hybrid cash balance plan, "regular~~
13 ~~interest" means]~~ **the rolling five (5) year yield on a thirty (30) year United**
14 **States Treasury bond as of the end of May prior to the most recently**
15 **completed fiscal year, except that:**

16 **1. Once the member has at least sixty (60) months of service in the**
17 **system it shall mean interest at two and one-half percent (2.5%) per**
18 **annum for purposes of crediting interest to employee contributions in**
19 **the foundational benefit component or any other contributions made**
20 **by the employee to the foundational benefit component that are**
21 **refundable to the employee upon termination of employment; and**

22 **2. The board shall have the authority to adjust the regular interest rate**
23 **for individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2022, in**
24 **accordance with Sections 1 and 2 of this Act**~~[the regular interest~~
25 ~~credited to the member's accumulated account balance as provided by~~
26 ~~KRS 161.235];~~

27 (14) "Accumulated contributions" means the contributions of a member to the teachers'

- 1 savings fund, including picked-up member contributions as described in KRS
2 161.540(2), plus accrued regular interest;
- 3 (15) "Annuitant" means a person who receives a retirement allowance or a disability
4 allowance;
- 5 (16) "Local retirement system" means any teacher retirement or annuity system created
6 in any public school district in Kentucky in accordance with the laws of Kentucky;
- 7 (17) "Fiscal year" means the twelve (12) month period from July 1 to June 30. The
8 retirement plan year is concurrent with this fiscal year. A contract for a member
9 employed by a local board of education may not exceed two hundred sixty-one
10 (261) days in the fiscal year;
- 11 (18) "Public schools" means the schools and other institutions mentioned in subsection
12 (4) of this section;
- 13 (19) "Dependent" as used in KRS 161.520 and 161.525 means a person who was
14 receiving, at the time of death of the member, at least one-half (1/2) of the support
15 from the member for maintenance, including board, lodging, medical care, and
16 related costs;
- 17 (20) "Active contributing member" means a member currently making contributions to
18 the Teachers' Retirement System, who made contributions in the next preceding
19 fiscal year, for whom picked-up member contributions are currently being made, or
20 for whom these contributions were made in the next preceding fiscal year;
- 21 (21) "Full-time" means employment in a position that requires services on a continuing
22 basis equal to at least seven-tenths (7/10) of normal full-time service on a fiscal year
23 basis;
- 24 (22) "Full actuarial cost," when used to determine the payment that a member must pay
25 for service credit means the actuarial value of all costs associated with the
26 enhancement of a member's benefits or eligibility for benefit enhancements,
27 including health insurance supplement payments made by the retirement system.

- 1 The actuary for the retirement system shall determine the full actuarial value costs
2 and actuarial cost factor tables as provided in KRS 161.400;
- 3 (23) "Last annual compensation" means the annual compensation, as defined by
4 subsection (10) of this section and as limited by subsection (9) of this section,
5 earned by the member during the most recent period of contributing service, either
6 consecutive or nonconsecutive, that is sufficient to provide the member with one (1)
7 full year of service credit in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, and which
8 compensation is used in calculating the member's initial retirement allowance,
9 excluding bonuses, retirement incentives, payments for accumulated sick leave ~~and~~
10 ~~authorized by KRS 161.155~~, annual, personal, and compensatory leave, and any
11 other lump-sum payment. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July
12 1, 2008, payments for annual or compensatory leave shall not be included in
13 determining the member's last annual compensation;
- 14 (24) "Participant" means a member, as defined by subsection (4) of this section, or an
15 annuitant, as defined by subsection (15) of this section;
- 16 (25) "Qualified domestic relations order" means any judgment, decree, or order,
17 including approval of a property settlement agreement, that:
- 18 (a) Is issued by a court or administrative agency; and
- 19 (b) Relates to the provision of child support, alimony payments, or marital
20 property rights to an alternate payee;
- 21 (26) "Alternate payee" means a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a
22 participant, who is designated to be paid retirement benefits in a qualified domestic
23 relations order;
- 24 (27) "University member" means an individual who becomes a member through
25 employment with an employer specified in subsection (4)(b) and (n) of this section;
- 26 (28) "Nonuniversity member" means an individual who becomes a member through
27 employment with an employer specified under subsection (4) of this section, except

1 for those members employed by an employer specified in subsection (4)(b) and (n)
2 of this section;

3 (29) "Accumulated employer contribution~~[credit]~~" means the employer
4 contribution~~[pay credit]~~ deposited to a ~~[the]~~ member's account through the
5 supplemental benefit component and regular interest credited on such amounts as
6 provided by Section 3 of this Act for nonuniversity members and Section 4 of this
7 Act for university members~~[KRS 161.235]; [and]~~

8 (30) "Accumulated account balance" means:

9 (a) For members who began participating in the system prior to January 1,
10 2022~~[2019]~~, the member's accumulated contributions; or

11 (b) For members who began participating in the system on or after January 1,
12 2022~~[2019]~~, ~~[in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 161.235,~~
13 ~~]the combined sum of the member's accumulated contributions and the~~
14 member's accumulated employer contributions~~[credit]~~;

15 (31) "Foundational benefit component" means the benefits provided by KRS 161.220
16 to 161.716 to individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2022,
17 except for the supplemental benefit component and retiree health benefits set
18 forth in KRS 161.675; and

19 (32) "Supplemental benefit component" means:

20 (a) The benefit established pursuant to Section 3 of this Act for individuals who
21 become nonuniversity members on or after January 1, 2022; or

22 (b) The benefit established pursuant to Section 4 of this Act for individuals who
23 become university members on or after January 1, 2022.

24 ➔Section 7. KRS 161.540 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

25 (1) (a) ~~[Effective January 1, 2019,]~~Each individual who becomes~~[is]~~ a contributing
26 nonuniversity member prior to January 1, 2022, shall contribute to the
27 retirement system twelve and eight hundred fifty-five thousandths percent

1 (12.855%) of annual compensation, of which:

- 2 1. Nine and one hundred five thousandths percent (9.105%) of annual
3 compensation shall be used to fund pension benefits; and
4 2. Three and three-quarters percent (3.75%) of annual compensation shall
5 be used to fund retiree health benefits.

6 (b) ~~[Effective January 1, 2019,]~~Each individual who ***becomes***~~[is]~~ a contributing
7 university member ***prior to January 1, 2022***, shall contribute to the retirement
8 system ten and four-tenths percent (10.4%) of annual compensation, of which:

- 9 1. Seven and six hundred twenty-five thousandths percent (7.625%) of
10 annual compensation shall be used to fund pension benefits; and
11 2. Two and seven hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (2.775%) of
12 annual compensation shall be used to fund retiree health benefits.

13 ***(c) Each individual who becomes a contributing nonuniversity member on or***
14 ***after January 1, 2022, shall contribute to the retirement system fourteen***
15 ***and three-quarters percent (14.75%) of annual compensation, of which:***

16 ***1. Nine percent (9%) of annual compensation shall be used to fund***
17 ***pension benefits in the foundational benefit component as described***
18 ***by Section 1 of this Act. The contribution provided by this***
19 ***subparagraph shall not be used to fund the supplemental benefit***
20 ***account as provided by Section 3 of this Act;***

21 ***2. Two percent (2%) of annual compensation shall fund the required***
22 ***employee contribution in the supplemental benefit component in***
23 ***Section 3 of this Act, except that the board may direct these***
24 ***contributions on a prospective basis into the pension and life***
25 ***insurance funds to contain costs of the foundational benefit***
26 ***component within the provisions of Section 1 of this Act; and***

27 ***3. Three and three-quarters percent (3.75%) of annual compensation***

1 shall be used to fund retiree health benefits.

2 (d) Each individual who becomes a contributing university member on or after
 3 January 1, 2022, shall contribute to the retirement system nine and seven
 4 hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (9.775%) of annual
 5 compensation, of which:

6 1. Five percent (5%) of annual compensation shall be used to fund
 7 pension benefits in the foundational benefit component as described
 8 by Section 2 of this Act. The contribution provided by this
 9 subparagraph shall not be used to fund the supplemental benefit
 10 account as provided by Section 4 of this Act;

11 2. Two percent (2%) of annual compensation shall fund the required
 12 employee contribution in the supplemental benefit component in
 13 Section 4 of this Act, except that the board may direct these
 14 contributions on a prospective basis into the pension and life
 15 insurance funds to contain costs of the foundational benefit
 16 component within the provisions of Section 2 of this Act; and

17 3. Two and seven hundred and seventy-five thousandths percent
 18 (2.775%) of annual compensation shall be used to fund retiree health
 19 benefits.

20 ~~(e)~~ When the medical insurance fund established under KRS 161.420(5)
 21 achieves a sufficient prefunded status as determined by the retirement system's
 22 actuary, the board of trustees shall recommend to the General Assembly that
 23 the contributions required under paragraph (a)2., ~~(b)2.,~~ (c)3., or (d)3. of
 24 this subsection shall, in an actuarially accountable manner, be either
 25 decreased, suspended, or eliminated.

26 ~~(f)~~ Payments authorized by statute that are made to retiring members, who
 27 became members of the system before July 1, 2008, for not more than sixty

1 (60) days of unused accrued annual leave shall be considered as part of the
2 member's annual compensation, and shall be used only for the member's final
3 year of active service. The contribution of members shall not exceed these
4 applicable percentages on annual compensation. When a member retires, if it
5 is determined that he has made contributions on a salary in excess of the
6 amount to be included for the purpose of calculating his final average salary,
7 any excess contribution shall be refunded to him in a lump sum at the time of
8 the payment of his first retirement allowance. In the event a member is
9 awarded a court-ordered back salary payment the employer shall deduct and
10 remit the member contribution on the salary payment, plus interest to be paid
11 by the employer, to the retirement system unless otherwise specified by the
12 court order.

13 (2) Each public board, institution, or agency listed in KRS 161.220(4) shall, solely for
14 the purpose of compliance with Section 414(h) of the United States Internal
15 Revenue Code, pick up the member contributions required by this section for all
16 compensation earned after August 1, 1982, and the contributions so picked up shall
17 be treated as employer contributions in determining tax treatment under the United
18 States Internal Revenue Code and KRS 141.010. The picked-up member
19 contribution shall satisfy all obligations to the retirement system satisfied prior to
20 August 1, 1982, by the member contribution, and the picked-up member
21 contribution shall be in lieu of a member contribution. Each employer shall pay
22 these picked-up member contributions from the same source of funds which is used
23 to pay earnings to the member. The member shall have no option to receive the
24 contributed amounts directly instead of having them paid by the employer to the
25 system. Member contributions picked-up after August 1, 1982, shall be treated for
26 all purposes of KRS 161.220 to 161.714 in the same manner and to the same extent
27 as member contributions made prior to August 1, 1982.

1 ➔Section 8. KRS 161.550 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:
 2 (1) ~~[(a) Effective July 1, 2020, and for each fiscal year occurring thereafter,]~~Each
 3 employer, except as provided under KRS 161.555, shall contribute annually to the
 4 Teachers' Retirement System a ~~[base]~~permanent employer contribution **rate on**
 5 **behalf of each employee it employs** equal to:

6 ~~(a)[1.]~~ Thirteen and one hundred five thousandths percent (13.105%) of the
 7 total annual compensation of nonuniversity members **who become members**
 8 **prior to July 1, 2008. Of this permanent employer contribution rate**~~[it~~
 9 ~~employs, of which]:~~

10 ~~1[a].~~ Twelve and three hundred fifty-five thousandths percent (12.355%) of
 11 the total annual compensation shall be used to fund pension and life
 12 insurance benefits; and

13 ~~2[b].~~ Three-quarters of a percent (0.75%) of annual compensation shall be
 14 used to provide funding to the medical insurance fund as provided under
 15 KRS 161.420(5). If the board of trustees establishes a trust fund under
 16 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, the board may deposit the employer contribution
 17 provided in this subparagraph in that trust fund; ~~[and]~~

18 **(b) Fourteen and one hundred five thousandths percent (14.105%) of the total**
 19 **annual compensation of nonuniversity members who become members on**
 20 **or after July 1, 2008, but prior to January 1, 2022. Of this permanent**
 21 **employer contribution rate:**

22 **1. Thirteen and three hundred fifty-five thousandths percent (13.355%)**
 23 **of the total annual compensation shall be used to fund pension and**
 24 **life insurance benefits; and**

25 **2. Three-quarters of a percent (0.75%) of annual compensation shall be**
 26 **used to provide funding to the medical insurance fund as provided**
 27 **under subsection (5) of Section 13 of this Act. If the board of trustees**

1 *establishes a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, the board may*
 2 *deposit the employer contribution provided in this subparagraph in*
 3 *that trust fund;*

4 (c)[2.] Thirteen and sixty-five hundredths percent (13.65%) of the total annual
 5 compensation of university members *who become members prior to January*
 6 *1, 2022. Of this permanent employer contribution rate*~~[of the retirement~~
 7 ~~system it employs, of which]:~~

8 1[a]. Ten and eight hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (10.875%) of
 9 the total annual compensation shall be used to fund pension and life
 10 insurance benefits; and

11 2[b]. Two and seven hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (2.775%) of
 12 annual compensation shall be used to provide funding to the medical
 13 insurance fund as provided under KRS 161.420(5). If the board of
 14 trustees establishes a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, the board may
 15 deposit the employer contribution provided in this subparagraph in that
 16 trust fund~~[-];~~

17 (d) Ten and three-quarters percent (10.75%) of the total annual compensation
 18 *of nonuniversity members who become members on or after January 1,*
 19 *2022. Of this permanent employer contribution rate:*

20 1. Eight percent (8%) of the total annual compensation shall be used to
 21 *fund pension and life insurance benefits. The contribution provided by*
 22 *this subparagraph shall not be used to fund the supplemental benefit*
 23 *account as provided by Section 3 of this Act;*

24 2. Two percent (2.0%) of the total annual compensation shall be used to
 25 *fund the mandatory employer contribution of the supplemental benefit*
 26 *component, except that the board may direct these contributions on a*
 27 *prospective basis into the pension and life insurance funds to contain*

1 costs within the provisions of Section 1 of this Act; and
2 3. Three-quarters of one percent (0.75%) of annual compensation shall
3 be used to provide funding to the medical insurance fund as provided
4 under subsection (5) of Section 13 of this Act. If the board of trustees
5 establishes a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, the board may
6 deposit the employer contribution provided in this subdivision in that
7 trust fund; and

8 (e) Nine and seven hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (9.775%) of total
9 annual compensation of university members who become members on or
10 after January 1, 2022. Of this permanent employer contribution rate:

11 1. Five and seven hundred seventy-five thousandths percent (5.775%) of
12 the total annual compensation shall be used to fund pension and life
13 insurance benefits. The contribution provided by this subparagraph
14 shall not be used to fund the supplemental benefit account as provided
15 by Section 4 of this Act;

16 2. Two percent (2.0%) of the total annual compensation shall be used to
17 fund the mandatory employer contribution of the supplemental benefit
18 component, except that the board may direct these contributions on a
19 prospective basis into the pension and life insurance funds to contain
20 costs within the provisions of Section 2 of this Act; and

21 3. Two percent (2.0%) of annual compensation shall be used to provide
22 funding to the medical insurance fund as provided under subsection
23 (5) of Section 13 of this Act. If the board of trustees establishes a trust
24 fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115, the board may deposit the employer
25 contribution provided in this subparagraph in that trust fund.

26 ~~(b) Effective July 1, 2020, and for each year thereafter, each employer shall pay~~
27 ~~the additional contributions needed to fund the Teachers' Retirement System~~

1 ~~pension fund and life insurance fund on an actuarially sound basis as~~
2 ~~determined by the system's actuarial valuation completed in accordance with~~
3 ~~KRS 161.400 and as specified by this section. The amount payable under the~~
4 ~~provisions of this paragraph shall:~~

5 ~~1.— Be in addition to the amounts provided under paragraph (a)1.a. and~~
6 ~~(a)2.a. of this subsection;~~

7 ~~2.— Not include the cost or funding of benefits established by KRS 161.553;~~
8 ~~and~~

9 ~~3.— Shall be prorated to each employer based upon the individual employer's~~
10 ~~average percentage of the total compensation reported by all employers~~
11 ~~in the system in fiscal years 2014-2015, 2015-2016, and 2016-2017,~~
12 ~~except that the amount shall be paid by state appropriation only for those~~
13 ~~employers who cover memberships specified by KRS 161.220(4)(a).~~

14 ~~(c)— The contributions payable under paragraphs (a)1.a., (a)2.a., and (b) of~~
15 ~~this subsection by employers and the state shall be equal to the sum of~~
16 ~~the "normal cost" contribution and the "actuarially accrued liability~~
17 ~~contribution," except that the minimum contribution to fund pension and~~
18 ~~life insurance benefits shall not be less than the combined employer~~
19 ~~contribution to fund pension and life insurance benefits specified by~~
20 ~~paragraph (a) of this subsection and subsection (3) of this section.~~

21 ~~(d)— For purposes of this subsection, the normal cost contribution shall be~~
22 ~~computed as a percentage of payroll and shall be an annual amount that~~
23 ~~is sufficient when combined with employee contributions to fund~~
24 ~~pension and life insurance benefits earned during the year, including~~
25 ~~costs for members participating in the hybrid cash balance plan.~~

26 ~~(e)— For purposes of this subsection, the actuarially accrued liability~~
27 ~~contribution shall be an annual amount that is sufficient to amortize the~~

1 total unfunded actuarially accrued liability over a closed period of thirty
2 (30) years using:

3 1. The level percentage of payroll amortization method in the 2018
4 actuarial valuation with a payroll growth assumption of two and six
5 hundred twenty five thousandths percent (2.625%);

6 2. The level percentage of payroll amortization method in the 2019
7 actuarial valuation with a payroll growth assumption of one and seventy
8 five hundredths percent (1.75%);

9 3. The level percentage of payroll amortization method in the 2020
10 actuarial valuation with a payroll growth assumption of eight hundred
11 seventy five thousandths percent (0.875%); and

12 4. The level dollar amortization method in the 2021 actuarial valuation and
13 for each valuation occurring thereafter.

14 — The amortization period shall be reset to a new thirty (30) year closed
15 period beginning with the 2018 actuarial valuation.

16 (f) Effective with the 2018 actuarial valuation, which determines the
17 employer rates payable on or after July 1, 2020, the employer
18 contributions computed under this section shall be determined using:

19 1. The entry age normal cost funding method;

20 2. An asset smoothing method that smooths gains and losses over a five (5)
21 year period; and

22 3. Other funding methods and assumptions established by the board in
23 accordance with KRS 161.400.]

24 (2) In addition to the required contributions in subsection (1) of this section, the state
25 shall contribute annually to the [Kentucky]Teachers' Retirement System a
26 percentage of the total salaries of the state-funded and federally funded members it
27 employs to pay the cost of health insurance coverage for retirees who are not

1 eligible for Medicare and who retire on or after July 1, 2010, less the amounts that
 2 are otherwise required to be paid by the retirees under KRS 161.675. ~~[/The Kentucky
 3 Teachers' Retirement System may also request an additional amount necessary to
 4 ensure payment of medical insurance costs through fiscal year 2015-2016 which
 5 shall not be subject to the limitations of paragraph (c) of this subsection.]~~The board
 6 shall deposit funds in the medical insurance fund unless the board of trustees has
 7 established a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115 for this purpose. In this case, the
 8 board may deposit the employer contribution in that trust fund. This contribution
 9 shall be known as the state medical insurance fund stabilization contribution. The
 10 percentage to be contributed by the state under this subsection:

- 11 (a) Shall be determined by the retirement system's actuary for each biennial
 12 budget period;
- 13 (b) May be suspended or adjusted by the General Assembly if in its judgment the
 14 welfare of the Commonwealth so demands; and
- 15 (c) Shall not exceed the lesser of the actual benefit cost for retirees not eligible for
 16 Medicare who retire on or after July 1, 2010, or the amount contributed by
 17 employers under subsection (3) of this section.

18 (3) ~~[/Effective January 1, 2019,]~~All employers who employ nonuniversity members
 19 shall make a contribution for each payroll on behalf of their active employees who
 20 participate in the Teachers' Retirement System in an amount equal to~~[-~~:

21 ~~[(a)]~~ three percent (3%) of payroll of those active employees. The contribution
 22 specified by this **subsection** ~~[/paragraph that is paid on or after January 1,
 23 2019,]~~shall be used to fund retiree health benefits~~[-~~; and

24 ~~[(b)]~~Two percent (2%) of payroll for those members who participate in the hybrid
 25 cash balance plan as provided by KRS 161.235. The amount of funding
 26 provided by this paragraph shall be used to offset any additional costs paid
 27 under subsection (1)(b) of this section].

1 (4) When the medical insurance fund established under subsection (5) of Section 13
 2 of this Act achieves a sufficient prefunded status as determined by the Teachers'
 3 Retirement System's actuary, the board of trustees shall recommend to the
 4 General Assembly that the contributions required under subsections (1)(c)2. and
 5 (e)3. and (3) of this section shall, in an actuarially accountable manner, be either
 6 decreased, suspended, or eliminated. The decrease, suspension, or elimination in
 7 contributions required under subsection (1)(c)2. of this section shall not exceed
 8 two and twenty-five thousandths percent (2.025%) of annual compensation. The
 9 decrease, suspension, or elimination in contributions required under subsection
 10 (1)(e)3. of this section shall not exceed one and twenty-five hundredths percent
 11 (1.25%) of annual compensation.

12 (5) Each employer shall remit the required employer contributions to the retirement
 13 system under the terms and conditions specified for member contributions under
 14 KRS 161.560. The state shall provide annual appropriations based upon
 15 estimated funds needed to meet the requirements of Sections 5, 17(4), 18, 22, 32,
 16 and 33 and KRS 161.168, 161.553, and 161.620(1), (3), (5), (6), and (7). In the
 17 event an annual appropriation ~~for the amounts specified by subsection (1)(a)1. of~~
 18 ~~this section~~ is less than the amount of these requirements, the state shall make up
 19 the deficit in the next biennium budget appropriation to the retirement system.
 20 Employer contributions to the retirement system are for the exclusive purpose of
 21 providing benefits to members and annuitants and these contributions shall be
 22 considered deferred compensation to the members. This subsection shall not apply
 23 to costs applicable to individuals who become members on or after January 1,
 24 2022.

25 ➔Section 9. KRS 161.600 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as follows:

26 (1) ~~Effective July 1, 1988,~~ An individual who becomes a member of the retirement
 27 system prior to January 1, 2022, may qualify for service retirement by meeting one

1 (1) of the following requirements:

2 (a) Attainment of age sixty (60) years and completion of five (5) years of
3 Kentucky service;

4 (b) 1. For an individual who becomes a member before July 1, 2008,
5 attainment of age fifty-five (55) years and completion of a minimum of
6 five (5) years of Kentucky service with an actuarial reduction of the
7 basic allowance of five percent (5%) for each year the member's age is
8 less than sixty (60) years or for each year the member's years of
9 Kentucky service credit is less than twenty-seven (27), whichever is the
10 lesser number; and

11 2. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008,
12 attainment of age fifty-five (55) years and completion of a minimum of
13 ten (10) years of Kentucky service with an actuarial reduction of the
14 basic retirement allowance of six percent (6%) for each year the
15 member's age is less than sixty (60) years or for each year the member's
16 years of Kentucky service credit is less than twenty-seven (27),
17 whichever is the lesser number;

18 (c) Completion of twenty-seven (27) years of Kentucky service. Out-of-state
19 service earned in accordance with the provisions of KRS 161.515(2) may be
20 used to meet this requirement; or

21 (d) Completion of the necessary years of service under provisions of KRS
22 61.559(2)(c) if the member is retiring under the reciprocity provisions of KRS
23 61.680. A member retiring under this paragraph who has not attained age
24 fifty-five (55) shall incur an actuarial reduction of the basic allowance
25 determined by the system's actuary for each year the member's service credit is
26 less than twenty-seven (27).

27 (2) *An individual who becomes a member of the retirement system on or after*

1 January 1, 2022, shall, except as adjusted by the board pursuant to Section 1 or 2
 2 of this Act, as applicable, be eligible to retire upon attainment of:

3 (a) Age sixty-five (65) and completion of a minimum of five (5) years of
 4 Kentucky service;

5 (b) Age sixty (60) and completion of a minimum of ten (10) years of Kentucky
 6 service;

7 (c) Age fifty-five (55) and completion of a minimum of thirty (30) years of
 8 Kentucky service; or

9 (d) Age fifty-five (55) years and completion of a minimum of ten (10) years of
 10 Kentucky service with an actuarial reduction of the basic retirement
 11 allowance of six percent (6%) for each year the member's age is less than
 12 sixty (60) years or for each year the member's years of Kentucky service
 13 credit is less than thirty (30), whichever is the lesser number.

14 (3) Any person who has been a member in Kentucky for twenty-seven (27) years or
 15 more and who withdraws from covered employment may continue to pay into the
 16 fund each year until the end of the fiscal year in which he reaches the age of sixty-
 17 five (65) years, the current contribution rate based on the annual compensation
 18 received during the member's last full year in covered employment, less any
 19 payment received for accrued sick leave or accrued leave from an employer. The
 20 member shall be entitled to receive a retirement allowance as provided in KRS
 21 161.620 at any time after withdrawing from covered employment and payment of
 22 contributions under this subsection. No member shall make contributions as
 23 provided for in this subsection if the member is at the same time making
 24 contributions to another retirement system in Kentucky supported wholly or in part
 25 by public funds.

26 ~~(4)~~~~(3)~~ Service credit in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System, the State Police
 27 Retirement System, the Legislators' Retirement Plan, the County Employees

1 Retirement System, or the Judicial Retirement System may be used in meeting the
 2 service requirements of subsections~~[subsection]~~ (1)(a) ~~to~~~~[(b), and]~~ (c) and (2) of
 3 this section, provided the service is subsequent to July 1, 1956.

4 ~~(5)~~~~[(4)]~~ Upon death, disability, or service retirement, a member's accounts under all
 5 state supported retirement systems shall be consolidated, as provided by this section
 6 and by KRS 61.680, for the purpose of determining eligibility and amount of
 7 benefits, which shall include medical benefits. Upon determination of benefits, each
 8 system shall pay the applicable percentage of total benefits. The effective date of
 9 retirement under this subsection shall be determined by each retirement system for
 10 the portion of the payments that will be made.

11 ~~(6)~~~~[(5)]~~ No retirement annuity shall be effective until written application and option
 12 election forms are filed with the retirement office in accordance with administrative
 13 regulations of the board of trustees. A member may withdraw his or her retirement
 14 application, postpone his or her effective retirement date, or change his or her
 15 retirement option if these elections are made no later than the fifteenth day of the
 16 month in which the member has made application for retirement.

17 ~~(7)~~~~[(6)]~~ The surviving spouse of an active contributing member, if named as
 18 beneficiary of the member's account, may purchase retirement credit that the
 19 member was eligible to purchase prior to the member's death.

20 ~~[(7) Effective January 1, 2019, subsections (1) to (3) of this section do not apply to~~
 21 ~~individuals who become members of the Teachers' Retirement System on or after~~
 22 ~~January 1, 2019. Individuals who become members of the Teachers' Retirement~~
 23 ~~System on or after January 1, 2019, shall receive the retirement benefits prescribed~~
 24 ~~by KRS 161.235.]~~

25 ➔Section 10. KRS 161.620 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 26 follows:

27 (1) The retirement allowance, in the form of a life annuity with refundable balance, of a

1 member retiring for service shall be calculated as follows:

- 2 (a) For retirements effective July 1, 1998, and thereafter, except as otherwise
3 provided by this section, the annual allowance for each year of service shall be
4 two percent (2%) of the final average salary for service performed prior to
5 July 1, 1983, and two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the final average salary
6 for service performed after July 1, 1983, for all nonuniversity members.
7 **Except as otherwise provided by this section,** the annual retirement allowance
8 for each year of service performed by members of the Teachers' Retirement
9 System who are university members shall be two percent (2%) of the final
10 average salary. Actuarial discounts due to age or service credit at retirement
11 may be applied as provided in this section;
- 12 (b) For individuals who become nonuniversity members of the Teachers'
13 Retirement System on or after July 1, 2002, and before July 1, 2008, who
14 upon retirement have earned less than ten (10) full years of service credit, the
15 retirement allowance shall be two percent (2%) of the member's final average
16 salary for each year of service. For individuals who become nonuniversity
17 members of the Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2002, and
18 before July 1, 2008, and who upon retirement have earned at least ten (10) full
19 years of service credit, the annual allowance for each year of service shall be
20 two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the member's final average salary;
- 21 (c) The board of trustees may approve for members who initially retire on or after
22 July 1, 2004, and who become nonuniversity members before July 1, 2008, a
23 retirement allowance of three percent (3%) of the member's final average
24 salary for each year of service credit earned in excess of thirty (30) years.
25 This three percent (3%) factor shall be in lieu of the two and one-half percent
26 (2.5%) factor provided for in paragraph (b) of this subsection for every year or
27 fraction of a year of service in excess of thirty (30) years. Upon approval of

1 this three percent (3%) retirement factor, the board of trustees may establish
2 conditions of eligibility regarding the type of service credit that will qualify
3 for meeting the requirements of this subsection. This subsection is optional
4 with the board of trustees and shall not be subject to KRS 161.714;

5 (d) For individuals who become nonuniversity members of the Teachers'
6 Retirement System on or after July 1, 2008, **but prior to January 1, 2022**, the
7 retirement allowance shall be:

8 1. a. One and seven-tenths percent (1.7%) of the member's final average
9 salary for each year of service if the member has earned ten (10) or
10 less years of service at retirement;

11 b. Two percent (2%) of the member's final average salary for each
12 year of service if the member has earned greater than ten (10) but
13 no more than twenty (20) years of service at retirement;

14 c. Two and three-tenths percent (2.3%) of the member's final average
15 salary for each year of service if the member has earned greater
16 than twenty (20) but no more than twenty-six (26) years of service
17 at retirement; or

18 d. Two and one-half percent (2.5%) of the member's final average
19 salary for each year of service if the member has earned greater
20 than twenty-six (26) but no more than thirty (30) years of service at
21 retirement; and

22 2. Three percent (3%) of the member's final average salary for each year of
23 service earned in excess of thirty (30) years of service at retirement
24 subject to the same terms and conditions as set forth in paragraph (c)2.
25 of this subsection;

26 (e) For individuals who become university members of the Teachers' Retirement
27 System on or after July 1, 2008, **but prior to January 1, 2022**, the retirement

1 allowance shall be:

- 2 1. One and one-half percent (1.5%) of the member's final average salary for
- 3 each year of service if the member has earned ten (10) or less years of
- 4 service at retirement;
- 5 2. One and seven-tenths percent (1.7%) of the member's final average
- 6 salary for each year of service if the member has earned greater than ten
- 7 (10) but no more than twenty (20) years of service at retirement;
- 8 3. One and eighty-five hundredths percent (1.85%) of the member's final
- 9 average salary for each year of service if the member has earned greater
- 10 than twenty (20) but less than twenty-seven (27) years of service at
- 11 retirement; or
- 12 4. Two percent (2%) of the member's final average salary for each year of
- 13 service if the member has earned twenty-seven (27) or more years of
- 14 service at retirement;

15 (f) For individuals who become nonuniversity members of the Teachers'
 16 Retirement System on or after January 1, 2022, the retirement allowance
 17 shall, except as adjusted by the board pursuant to Section 1 of this Act, be
 18 the following percentage of the member's final average salary for each year
 19 of service:

- 20 1. One and seven-tenths percent (1.7%), which shall be increased
 21 incrementally each month the member's age at retirement is greater
 22 than sixty (60) so that the incremental increase is four one-hundredths
 23 of one percent (0.04%) for each complete additional year of age at
 24 retirement in excess of sixty (60), not to exceed a value of one and
 25 nine-tenths percent (1.9%) at age sixty-five (65) or greater; plus
- 26 2. a. One-quarter of one percent (0.25%), if the member has earned at
 27 least twenty (20) but less than thirty (30) years of service at

1 retirement; or

2 b. One-half of one percent (0.50%), if the member has earned thirty
 3 (30) or more years of service at retirement;

4 (g) For individuals who become university members of the Teachers'
 5 Retirement System on or after January 1, 2022, the retirement allowance
 6 shall, except as adjusted by the board pursuant to Section 2 of this Act, be
 7 the following percentage of the member's final average salary for each year
 8 of service:

9 1. Seven-tenths of one percent (0.7%), which shall be increased
 10 incrementally each month the member's age at retirement is greater
 11 than sixty (60) so that the incremental increase is four one-hundredths
 12 of one percent (0.04%) for each complete additional year of age in
 13 excess of sixty (60), not to exceed a value of nine-tenths of one percent
 14 (0.9%) at age sixty-five (65) or greater; plus

15 2. a. One-quarter of one percent (0.25%), if the member has earned at
 16 least twenty (20) but less than thirty (30) years of service at
 17 retirement; or

18 b. One-half of one percent (0.50%), if the member has earned thirty
 19 (30) or more years of service at retirement; and

20 (h) [(f)] The retirement allowance of a member at retirement, as measured on a
 21 life annuity, shall not exceed the member's last yearly salary or the member's
 22 final average salary, whichever is the greater amount. For purposes of this
 23 section, "yearly salary" means the compensation earned by a member during
 24 the most recent period of contributing service, either consecutive or
 25 nonconsecutive, preceding the member's effective retirement date and shall be
 26 subject to the provisions of KRS 161.220(9) and (10). This paragraph shall
 27 not apply to the supplemental benefit component.

- 1 (2) Effective July 1, 2002, and annually on July 1 thereafter, the retirement allowance
2 of each retired member and of each beneficiary of a retirement option shall be
3 increased in the amount of one and one-half percent (1.5%), provided the retired
4 member had been retired for at least the full twelve (12) months immediately
5 preceding the date that the increase is effective. In the event that the retired member
6 had been retired for less than the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding the
7 date that the increase is effective, then the increase shall be reduced on a pro rata
8 basis by each month that the retired member had not been retired for the full twelve
9 (12) months immediately preceding the effective date of the increase. **This**
10 **subsection shall not apply to benefits from the supplemental benefit component,**
11 **and the board may adjust this value for individuals who become members on or**
12 **after January 1, 2022, as provided by Section 1 or 2 of this Act, as applicable.**
- 13 (3) Any member qualifying for retirement under a life annuity with refundable balance
14 shall be entitled to receive an annual allowance amounting to not less than four
15 hundred dollars (\$400) effective July 1, 2002, and not less than four hundred forty
16 dollars (\$440) effective July 1, 2003, multiplied by the service credit years of the
17 member. These minimums shall apply to the retired members receiving annuity
18 payments and to those members retiring on or subsequent to the effective dates
19 listed in this subsection, except the following:
- 20 (a) Individuals who become members of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
21 System on or after July 1, 2008; or
- 22 (b) Members whose retirement allowance payment is reduced below the
23 minimum allowance as a result of its division in a qualified domestic relations
24 order or any other provision permitted under KRS 161.700.
- 25 (4) The minimum retirement allowance provided in this section shall apply in the case
26 of members retired or retiring under an option other than a life annuity with
27 refundable balance in the same proportion to the benefits of the member and his

1 beneficiary or beneficiaries as provided in the duly-adopted option tables at the time
2 of the member's retirement.

3 (5) Effective July 1, 2008, the monthly allowance of each retired member and each
4 recipient of a retirement option of the retired member may be increased in an
5 amount not to exceed three and one-half percent (3.5%) of the monthly allowance in
6 effect the previous month, provided the retired member had been retired for at least
7 the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date that the increase is
8 effective. In the event that the retired member had been retired for less than the full
9 twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date that the increase is effective,
10 then the increase shall be reduced on a pro rata basis by each month that the retired
11 member had not been retired for the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding
12 the effective date of the increase. The level of increase provided for in this
13 subsection shall be determined by the funding provided in the 2008-2010 biennium
14 budget appropriation.

15 (6) Effective July 1, 2009, the monthly allowance of each retired member and each
16 recipient of a retirement option of the retired member may be increased in an
17 amount not to exceed seven-tenths of one percent (0.7%) of the monthly allowance
18 in effect the previous month, provided the retired member had been retired for at
19 least the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date that the increase is
20 effective. In the event that the retired member had been retired for less than the full
21 twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date that the increase is effective,
22 then the increase shall be reduced on a pro rata basis by each month that the retired
23 member had not been retired for the full twelve (12) months immediately preceding
24 the effective date of the increase. The level of increase provided for in this
25 subsection shall be determined by the funding provided in the 2008-2010 biennium
26 budget appropriation.

27 (7) Effective July 1, 1990, monthly payments of two hundred dollars (\$200) shall be

1 payable for the benefit of an adult child of a member retired for service when the
 2 child's mental or physical condition is sufficient to cause dependency on the
 3 member at the time of retirement. Eligibility for this payment shall continue for the
 4 life of the child or until the time the mental or physical condition creating the
 5 dependency no longer exists or the child marries. Benefits under this subsection
 6 shall apply to legally adopted survivors provided the proceedings for the adoption
 7 were initiated at least one (1) year prior to the death of the member. The board of
 8 trustees shall be the sole judge of eligibility or dependency and may require formal
 9 application or information relating thereto.

10 (8) Members of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be subject to the annuity income
 11 limitations imposed by Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

12 (9) Compensation in excess of the limitations imposed by Section 401(a)(17) of the
 13 Internal Revenue Code shall not be used in determining a member's retirement
 14 annuity. The limitation on compensation for eligible members shall not be less than
 15 the amount which was allowed to be taken into account by the retirement system in
 16 effect on July 1, 1993. For this purpose, an eligible member is an individual who
 17 was a member of the retirement system before the first plan year beginning after
 18 December 31, 1995.

19 ~~[(10) Effective January 1, 2019, subsections (1) to (7) of this section do not apply to~~
 20 ~~individuals who become members of the Teachers' Retirement System on or after~~
 21 ~~January 1, 2019.]~~

22 ➔Section 11. KRS 161.655 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 23 follows:

24 (1) Effective July 1, 2000, the Teachers' Retirement System shall ~~for those individuals~~
 25 ~~who became members prior to January 1, 2019]:~~

26 (a) Provide a life insurance benefit in a minimum amount of five thousand dollars
 27 (\$5,000) for its members who are retired for service or disability, ***except that***

1 **the minimum amount for an individual who becomes a member on or after**
2 **January 1, 2022, and retires for service or disability shall be ten thousand**
3 **dollars (\$10,000).** This life insurance benefit shall be payable upon the death
4 of a member retired for service or disability to the member's estate or to a
5 party designated by the member on a form prescribed by the retirement
6 system; and

7 (b) Provide a life insurance benefit in a minimum amount of two thousand dollars
8 (\$2,000) for its active contributing members, **except that the minimum**
9 **amount for an individual who becomes a member on or after January 1,**
10 **2022, and is an active contributing member shall be five thousand dollars**
11 **(\$5,000).** This life insurance benefit shall be payable upon the death of an
12 active contributing member to the member's estate or to a party designated by
13 the member on a form prescribed by the retirement system.

14 (2) The member may name one (1) primary and one (1) contingent beneficiary for
15 receipt of the life insurance benefit. To the extent permitted by the Internal Revenue
16 Code, a trust may be designated as beneficiary for receipt of the life insurance
17 benefit. Members may designate as beneficiaries only presently identifiable and
18 existing individuals, or trusts where otherwise permitted, without contingency
19 instructions, on forms prescribed by the retirement system. In the event that a
20 member fails to designate a beneficiary, or all designated beneficiaries predecease
21 the member, the member's estate shall be deemed to be the beneficiary. Any
22 beneficiary designation made by the member, including the estate should the estate
23 become the beneficiary by default, shall remain in effect until changed by the
24 member on forms prescribed by the retirement system, except in the event of
25 subsequent marriage or divorce. A valid marriage license shall terminate any
26 previously designated beneficiary, even that of a trust, and establish the spouse as
27 beneficiary unless, subsequent proof of the marriage, the member or retired member

1 redesignates someone other than the new spouse as the beneficiary. A final divorce
2 decree shall terminate the beneficiary status of an ex-spouse unless, subsequent to
3 divorce, the member redesignates the former spouse as a beneficiary. A final
4 divorce decree shall not terminate the designation of a trust as beneficiary regardless
5 of who is designated as beneficiary of the trust.

6 (3) Application for payment of life insurance proceeds shall be made to the Teachers'
7 Retirement System together with acceptable evidence of death and eligibility. The
8 reciprocal provisions of KRS 61.680(2)(a) shall not apply to the coverage and
9 payment of proceeds by the life insurance benefit under this section.

10 (4) Suit or civil action shall not be required for the collection of the proceeds of the life
11 insurance benefit provided for by this section, but nothing in this section shall
12 prevent the maintenance of suit or civil action against the beneficiary or legal
13 representative receiving the proceeds of the life insurance benefit.

14 (5) Upon the death of a member of the Teachers' Retirement System, the life insurance
15 provided pursuant to subsection (1) of this section may be assigned by the
16 designated beneficiary to a bank or licensed funeral home.

17 ➔Section 12. KRS 161.400 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
18 follows:

19 (1) (a) The board of trustees shall designate as actuary a competent person who shall
20 be a fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries or a member of the
21 American Academy of Actuaries. He shall be the technical adviser of the
22 board on matters regarding the operation of the funds of the system and shall
23 perform such other duties as are required in connection therewith.

24 (b) At least once in each five (5) year period, the actuary shall make an actuarial
25 investigation into the actuarial assumptions and funding methods used,
26 including but not limited to mortality, investment rate of return, and service
27 and compensation of the members and beneficiaries of the retirement system,

1 relative to the actuarial assumptions and funding methods previously adopted
2 by the board. The actuarial investigation shall include at a minimum a
3 summary of the changes in actuarial assumptions and funding methods
4 recommended in the investigation and the projected impact of the
5 recommended changes on funding levels, unfunded liabilities, and actuarially
6 recommended contribution rates for employers over a twenty (20) year period.

7 (c) At least annually the actuary shall make an actuarial valuation of the
8 retirement system. The valuation shall include:

- 9 1. A description of the actuarial assumptions used, and the assumptions
10 shall be reasonably related to the experience of the system and represent
11 the actuary's best estimate of anticipated experience;
- 12 2. A description of any funding methods utilized or required by state law in
13 the development of the actuarial valuation results;
- 14 3. A description of any changes in actuarial assumptions and methods from
15 the previous year's actuarial valuation;
- 16 4. The actuarially recommended contribution rate for employers for the
17 upcoming budget periods;
- 18 5. A twenty (20) year projection of the funding levels, unfunded liabilities,
19 and actuarially recommended contribution rates for employers based
20 upon the actuarial assumptions, funding methods, and experience of the
21 system as of the valuation date; and
- 22 6. A sensitivity analysis that evaluates the impact of changes in system
23 assumptions, including but not limited to the investment return
24 assumption, payroll growth assumption, and medical inflation rates, on
25 employer contribution rates, funding levels, and unfunded liabilities.

26 (d) On the basis of the results of the valuations, the board of trustees shall make
27 necessary changes in the retirement system within the provisions of law and

1 shall establish the contributions payable by employers and the state specified
2 in KRS 161.550, including changes prescribed by Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of
3 this Act, as applicable.

4 (e) For any change in actuarial assumptions, funding methods, retiree health
5 insurance premiums and subsidies, or any other decisions made by the board
6 that impact system liabilities and actuarially recommended contribution rates
7 for employers and that are not made in conjunction with the actuarial
8 investigation required by paragraph (b) of this subsection, an actuarial analysis
9 shall be completed showing the projected impact of the changes on funding
10 levels, unfunded liabilities, and actuarially recommended contribution rates
11 for employers over a twenty (20) year period.

12 (2) Actuarial factors and actuarial cost factor tables in use by the retirement system for
13 all purposes shall be determined by the actuary of the retirement system and
14 approved by the board of trustees by resolution and implemented without the
15 necessity of an administrative regulation.

16 (3) A copy of each five (5) year actuarial investigation, actuarial analysis, and valuation
17 required by subsection (1) of this section shall be forwarded electronically to the
18 Legislative Research Commission no later than ten (10) days after receipt by the
19 board, and the Legislative Research Commission shall distribute the information
20 received to the committee staff and co-chairs of any committee that has jurisdiction
21 over the ~~Kentucky~~ Teachers' Retirement System. The actuarial valuation required
22 by subsection (1)(c) of this section shall be submitted no later than November 15
23 following the close of the fiscal year.

24 ➔Section 13. KRS 161.420 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
25 follows:

26 All of the assets of the retirement system are for the exclusive purpose of providing
27 benefits to members and annuitants and defraying reasonable expenses of administering

1 the system. The board of trustees shall be the trustee of all funds of the system and shall
 2 have full power and responsibility for administering the funds. All the assets of the
 3 retirement system shall be credited according to the purpose for which they are held to
 4 one (1) of the following funds:

5 (1) The expense fund shall consist of the funds set aside from year to year by the board
 6 of trustees to defray the expenses of the administration of the retirement system.
 7 Each fiscal year an amount not greater than four percent (4%) of the dividends and
 8 interest income earned from investments during the immediate past fiscal year shall
 9 be set aside into the expense fund or expended for the administration of the
 10 retirement system;

11 (2) (a) The teachers' savings fund shall consist of:

- 12 1. The contributions paid by members of the retirement system into this
 13 fund and regular interest assigned by the board of trustees from the
 14 guarantee fund~~[or established by KRS 161.235, as applicable]~~; and
- 15 2. For individuals who become members of the Teachers' Retirement
 16 System on or after January 1, 2022~~[2019]~~, who are participating in the
 17 supplemental benefit component~~[hybrid cash balance plan]~~, the
 18 employer contributions paid into the supplemental benefit
 19 component~~[pay credit]~~ and regular interest on those contributions~~[to~~
 20 ~~the hybrid cash balance plan]~~ as provided by Sections 3 and 4 of this
 21 Act~~[KRS 161.235]~~ that is assigned by the board of trustees from the
 22 guarantee fund.

23 For individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2022, the
 24 system shall account for funds in the teachers' savings fund attributable to
 25 nonuniversity members foundational benefit component, nonuniversity
 26 members supplemental benefit component, university members
 27 foundational benefit component, and university members supplemental

1 **benefit component.**

- 2 (b) A member may not borrow any amount of his or her accumulated account
3 balance in the teachers' savings fund, or any regular interest earned thereon.
- 4 (c) The accumulated contributions or accumulated account balance of a member
5 which are returned to him upon his withdrawal or paid to his estate or
6 designated beneficiary in the event of his death shall be paid from the teachers'
7 savings fund.
- 8 (d) Any accumulated account balance in the teachers' savings fund forfeited by a
9 failure of a teacher or his estate to claim these contributions shall be
10 transferred from this fund to the guarantee fund.
- 11 (e) **Except as provided by paragraph (f) of this subsection**~~[For an individual who
12 becomes a member of the Teachers' Retirement System prior to January 1,
13 2019],~~ the accumulated account balance of a member in the teachers' savings
14 fund shall be transferred from this fund to the allowance reserve fund in the
15 event of retirement by reason of service or disability.
- 16 (f) For an individual who becomes a member of the Teachers' Retirement System
17 on or after January 1, 2022~~[2019]~~, who is participating in the **supplemental**
18 **benefit component**~~[hybrid cash balance plan]~~ who elects to annuitize his or
19 her accumulated account balance **in the supplemental benefit component** as
20 prescribed by **subsection (5)(a) or (b) of Section 3 of this Act or subsection**
21 **(5)(a) or (b) of Section 4 of this Act**~~[KRS 161.235(7)(a) or (b)]~~, the member's
22 accumulated account balance **in the supplemental benefit component** shall be
23 transferred **from this fund** to the allowance reserve fund;
- 24 (3) The state accumulation fund shall consist of funds paid by employers and
25 appropriated by the state for the purpose of providing annuities and survivor
26 benefits, including any sums appropriated for meeting unfunded liabilities, together
27 with regular interest assigned by the board of trustees from the guarantee fund. At

1 the time of retirement or death of a member there shall be transferred from the state
 2 accumulation fund to the allowance reserve fund an amount which together with the
 3 sum transferred from the teachers' savings fund will be sufficient to provide the
 4 member a retirement allowance and provide for benefits under KRS 161.520 and
 5 161.525. There shall also be transferred from the state accumulation fund to the
 6 teachers' savings fund, the amount needed to fund the mandatory employer
 7 contributions~~[credits]~~ required by Sections 3 and 4 of this Act~~[KRS 161.235]~~;

8 (4) The allowance reserve fund shall be the fund from which shall be paid all retirement
 9 allowances and benefits provided under KRS 161.520 and 161.525. In addition,
 10 whenever a change in the status of a member results in an obligation on this fund,
 11 there shall be transferred to this fund from the teachers' savings fund and the state
 12 accumulation fund, the amounts as may be held in those funds for the account or
 13 benefit of the member;

14 (5) (a) ~~[Effective January 1, 2019,]~~ The medical insurance fund, which is an account
 15 established according to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h), shall consist of amounts
 16 accumulated for the purpose of providing benefits as provided in KRS
 17 161.675, including:

18 1. The member contributions required by KRS 161.540(1)(a)2., ~~and~~
 19 ~~(1)~~(b)2., (c)3., and (d)3.;

20 2. The employer contribution required by subsections (1)(a)2., (b)2., (c)2.,
 21 (d)3., and (e)3. and (3) of Section 8 of this Act~~[KRS 161.550(1)(a)1.b.,~~
 22 ~~(1)(a)2.b., and (3)(a)]~~;

23 3. State appropriations as set forth in KRS 161.550(2), unless the
 24 contributions are made to a trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115
 25 established by the board for this purpose; and

26 4. Interest income from the investments of the fund from contributions
 27 received by the fund under subparagraphs 1. to 3. of this paragraph, and

1 from income earned on those investments.

2 (b) All claims for benefits under KRS 161.675 shall be paid from this fund or
3 from any trust fund under 26 U.S.C. sec. 115 as established by the board for
4 this purpose. Any amounts deposited to the fund that are not required to meet
5 current costs shall be maintained as a reserve in the fund for these benefits.
6 The board shall take the necessary and appropriate steps, including
7 promulgating administrative regulations and procedures to maintain the status
8 of the medical insurance fund as an account subject to 26 U.S.C. sec. 401(h);

9 (6) The guarantee fund shall be maintained to facilitate the crediting of uniform interest
10 on the amounts of the other funds, except the expense fund, to finance operating
11 expenses directly related to investment management services, and to provide a
12 contingent fund out of which special requirements of any of the other funds may be
13 covered. All income, interest, and dividends derived from the authorized deposits
14 and investments shall be paid into the guarantee fund. Any funds received from
15 gifts and bequests, which the board is hereby authorized to accept and expend
16 without limitation in a manner either expressed by the donor or deemed to be in the
17 best interest of the membership, shall be credited to the guarantee fund. Any funds
18 transferred from the teachers' savings fund by reason of lack of claimant or because
19 of a surplus in any fund and any other moneys whose disposition is not otherwise
20 provided for, shall also be credited to the guarantee fund. The interest allowed by
21 the board of trustees to each of the other funds shall be paid to these funds from the
22 guarantee fund. Any deficit occurring in any fund that would not be automatically
23 covered shall be met by the payments from the guarantee fund to that fund;

24 (7) The school employee annuity fund shall consist of those funds voluntarily
25 contributed under the provisions of Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code by
26 a ~~retired~~ member of the Teachers' Retirement System with accounts that existed
27 on or after July 1, 1996. The contributions shall not be picked up as provided in

1 KRS 161.540(2). Separate member accounts shall be maintained for each member.
2 The board of trustees may promulgate administrative regulations pursuant to KRS
3 Chapter 13A to manage this program;

4 (8) The supplemental retirement benefit fund shall consist of those funds contributed by
5 the employer for the purpose of constituting a qualified government excess benefit
6 plan as described in Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code for accounts that
7 existed on or after July 1, 1996. The board of trustees shall promulgate
8 administrative regulations pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A to administer this
9 program; and

10 (9) The life insurance benefit fund shall consist of amounts accumulated for the
11 purpose of providing benefits provided under KRS 161.655. The board of trustees
12 may allocate to this fund a percentage of the employer and state contributions as
13 provided under KRS 161.550. The allocation to this fund will be in an amount that
14 the actuary determines necessary to fund the obligation of providing the benefits
15 provided under KRS 161.655.

16 **(10) The stabilization reserve account shall consist of amounts in two (2) separate**
17 **accounts:**

18 **(a) One (1) that includes employer contributions as provided by subsection**
19 **(1)(d)1. and 2. of Section 8 of this Act that exceeds the combined actuarially**
20 **required employer contribution for the foundational benefit component and**
21 **the mandatory employer contribution to the supplemental benefit**
22 **component as provided by Sections 1 and 3 of this Act for those individuals**
23 **who become nonuniversity members on or after January 1, 2022; and**

24 **(b) One (1) that includes employer contributions as provided by subsection**
25 **(1)(e)1. and 2. of Section 8 of this Act that exceeds the combined actuarially**
26 **required employer contribution for the foundational benefit component and**
27 **the mandatory employer contribution to the supplemental benefit**

1 *component as provided by Sections 2 and 4 of this Act for those individuals*
 2 *who become university members on or after January 1, 2022.*

3 *Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, funds in these accounts shall*
 4 *only be used to pay off the unfunded liability of the pension and life insurance*
 5 *funds.*

6 ➔Section 14. KRS 161.470 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 7 follows:

- 8 (1) The membership of the retirement system shall consist of all new members, all
 9 present teachers, and all persons participating under the retirement system as of
 10 June 30, 1986, except as provided in Acts 1938 (1st Ex. Sess.), Ch. 1, paragraph 29.
 11 The board of trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be responsible for
 12 final determination of membership eligibility and may direct employers to take
 13 whatever action that may be necessary to correct any error relating to membership.
- 14 (2) Service credit shall be forfeited upon withdrawal. If a member again enters service
 15 it shall be as a new member, except that any teacher who withdraws by claiming his
 16 deposits may repay the system the amount withdrawn plus interest and reestablish
 17 his service credit as provided in subsection (3) of this section.
- 18 (3) Effective July 1, 1988, and thereafter, an active contributing member of the
 19 retirement system with contributing service equal to one (1) year may regain service
 20 credit by depositing in the teachers' savings fund the amount withdrawn with
 21 interest at the rate to be set by the board of trustees, and computed from the first of
 22 the month of withdrawal and including the month of redeposit.~~Service credit~~
 23 ~~regained pursuant to this subsection on or after January 1, 2019, shall not be used to~~
 24 ~~determine the date the individual purchasing the service became a member of the~~
 25 ~~Teachers' Retirement System.]~~
- 26 (4) Effective July 1, 1974, any active contributing member with at least two (2) years of
 27 contributing service credit who declined membership as provided in Acts 1938 (1st

1 Ex. Sess.), Ch. 1, paragraph 29, may secure service credit for prior service, and for
2 any subsequent service prior to date of membership, by depositing in the teachers'
3 savings fund contributions for each year of subsequent service prior to date of
4 membership, with interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) compounded annually to
5 the date of deposit.

6 (5) Membership in the retirement system shall be terminated:

7 (a) By retirement for service;

8 (b) By death;

9 (c) By withdrawal of the member's accumulated account balance;

10 (d) When a member, having less than five (5) years of Kentucky service is absent
11 from service for more than three (3) consecutive years; or

12 (e) For persons hired on or after August 1, 2000, when a member is convicted, in
13 any state or federal court of competent jurisdiction, of a felony related to his
14 employment as provided in subparagraphs 1. and 2. of this paragraph.

15 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a member hired
16 on or after August 1, 2000, who is convicted, in any state or federal
17 court of competent jurisdiction, of a felony related to his employment
18 shall forfeit rights and benefits earned under the retirement system,
19 except for the return of his accumulated contributions and interest
20 credited on those contributions.

21 2. The payment of retirement benefits ordered forfeited shall be stayed
22 pending any appeal of the conviction. If the conviction is reversed on
23 final judgment, no retirement benefits shall be forfeited.

24 Except for paragraph (e) of this subsection, upon termination of member accounts
25 under this subsection, funds in the account shall be transferred to the guarantee
26 fund. Inactive members may apply for refunds of these funds at any time. The
27 terminated service shall be reinstated, if not withdrawn by the member, in the event

- 1 that the member returns to active contributing service.
- 2 (6) In case of withdrawal from service prior to eligibility for retirement, the board of
3 trustees shall on request of the member return all of his accumulated account
4 balance, including any payments made by the member to the state accumulation
5 fund, but the member shall have no claim on any contributions made by the state or
6 employer with a view to his retirement, except as provided by **Sections 3 and 4 of**
7 **this Act**~~[KRS 161.235]~~, or to contributions made to the medical insurance fund. If
8 the member is eligible for an immediate service retirement allowance as provided in
9 KRS 161.600, no withdrawal and refund shall be permitted, unless the allowance
10 would prohibit the member from qualifying for Social Security benefits or the
11 member elects to withdraw part or all of his service for the purpose of obtaining
12 credit in another retirement plan. Requests for refund of contributions by the
13 member must be filed on forms prescribed by the Teachers' Retirement System and
14 the employer shall be financially responsible for all information that is certified on
15 the prescribed form. A member may not withdraw any part of his or her
16 accumulated account balance in the retirement system except as provided by this
17 subsection.
- 18 (7) Except as provided in KRS 161.520 and 161.525, in case of death prior to
19 retirement, the board of trustees shall pay to the estate of the deceased member,
20 unless a beneficiary was otherwise applicably designated by the deceased member,
21 then to the beneficiary, all of his accumulated account balance, including any
22 payments made by the member to the state accumulation fund, but the estate or
23 beneficiary shall have no claim on any contributions made by the state or employer
24 with a view to the retirement of the member, except as provided by **Sections 3 and**
25 **4 of this Act**~~[KRS 161.235]~~, or to contributions made to the medical insurance fund.
- 26 (8) Any active contributing member of the Kentucky Employees Retirement System,
27 the County Employees Retirement System, the State Police Retirement System, or

1 the Judicial Retirement System may use service, under that retirement system for
2 the purpose of meeting the service requirement of subsections (3) and (4) of this
3 section.

4 ➔Section 15. KRS 161.480 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

5 Each person, upon becoming a member of the retirement system, shall file a detailed
6 statement as required by the board of trustees and shall designate a primary beneficiary or
7 two (2) or more cobeneficiaries to receive any benefits accruing from the death of the
8 member. A contingent beneficiary may be designated in addition to the primary
9 beneficiary or cobeneficiaries. The member may name more than one (1) contingent
10 beneficiary. Any beneficiary designation made by the member, including the estate should
11 the estate become the beneficiary by default, shall remain in effect until changed by the
12 member on forms prescribed by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, except in the
13 event of subsequent marriage or divorce. Subsequent marriage by the member shall void
14 the primary beneficiary and any cobeneficiary designation, even that of a trust, and the
15 spouse of the member at death shall be considered as the primary beneficiary, unless the
16 member subsequent to marriage designates another beneficiary. A final divorce decree
17 shall terminate an ex-spouse's status as either primary beneficiary, cobeneficiary, or
18 contingent beneficiary, unless subsequent to divorce the member redesignates the former
19 spouse as primary beneficiary, cobeneficiary, or contingent beneficiary. To the extent
20 permitted by the Internal Revenue Code, a trust may be designated as beneficiary for
21 receipt of a member's accumulated account balance in the retirement system as provided
22 under KRS 161.470(7). A final divorce decree shall not terminate the designation of a
23 trust as beneficiary regardless of who is designated as beneficiary of the trust. In the event
24 that a member fails to designate a beneficiary, or all designated beneficiaries predecease
25 the member, the member's estate shall be deemed to be the beneficiary. Members may
26 designate as beneficiaries only presently identifiable and existing individuals, or trusts
27 where otherwise permitted, without contingency instructions, on forms prescribed by the

1 retirement system. The provisions of this section shall be retroactive as they relate to
2 election of beneficiaries by members still in active status on the effective date of this
3 section. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any account from which a
4 member is drawing a retirement allowance or to the life insurance benefit available under
5 KRS 161.655.

6 ➔Section 16. KRS 161.500 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
7 follows:

- 8 (1) At the close of each fiscal year, the retirement system shall add service credit to the
9 account of each member who made contributions to his or her account during the
10 year. Members shall be entitled to a full year of service credit if their total paid days
11 were not less than one hundred eighty (180) days of a one hundred eighty-five (185)
12 day contract for a regular school or fiscal year. In the event~~[an individual who~~
13 ~~became] a member~~[prior to January 1, 2019,]~~ is paid for less than one hundred
14 eighty (180) days, the member may purchase credit according to administrative
15 regulations established by the board of trustees. In no case shall more than one (1)
16 year of service be credited for all service performed in one (1) fiscal year. Members
17 who complete their employment contract prior to the close of a fiscal year and elect
18 to retire prior to the close of a fiscal year shall have their service credit reduced by
19 eight percent (8%) for each calendar month that the retirement becomes effective
20 prior to July 1.~~
- 21 (2) Members who are employed and paid for less than the number of days required in
22 their normal employment year shall be entitled to pro rata service credit for the
23 fractional service. Such credit shall be based upon the number of days employed
24 and the number of days in the member's annual employment agreement or normal
25 employment year.
- 26 (3) Service credit may not exceed the ratio between the school or fiscal year and the
27 number of months or fraction of a month the member is employed during that year.

1 (4) No service credit shall be granted in the Teachers' Retirement System for service
2 that has been or will be used in qualifying for annuity benefit payments from
3 another retirement system financed wholly or in part by public funds.

4 ➔Section 17. KRS 161.507 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
5 follows:

6 (1) An active contributing member of the Teachers' Retirement System may receive
7 service credit for active service rendered in the uniformed services of the Armed
8 Forces of the United States, including the commissioned corps of the Public Health
9 Service, subject to the provisions of the Uniformed Services Employment and
10 Reemployment Rights Act of 1994~~[, the provisions of this section as applicable,]~~
11 and the administrative regulations promulgated by the board of trustees. Military
12 service includes service in the uniformed services that occurs before the
13 employment of a member in a position covered by the retirement system or where a
14 member leaves covered employment without giving advance written or verbal
15 notice of performing duty in the uniformed services. Service in the uniformed
16 services also includes uniformed service that occurs after employment in a position
17 covered by the retirement system where the member has given advance written or
18 verbal notice of performing duty in the uniformed services and the member returns
19 directly from uniformed services to covered employment. Military service may be
20 credited only if discharge was honorable or was not terminated upon the occurrence
21 of any of the events listed in 38 U.S.C. sec. 4304. Service shall be considered as
22 Kentucky teaching service, except that service may not be used for meeting the
23 service requirements set forth in KRS 161.600(1)(a) or 161.661(1) **or subsection (2)**
24 **of Section 9 of this Act** unless the service occurred after the member gave written
25 or verbal notice of performing duty in the uniformed services and the member
26 returned directly from uniformed services to covered employment. A maximum of
27 six (6) years of military service may be credited, but in no case a greater number of

1 years than the actual years of contributing service in Kentucky.

2 (2) No credit shall be granted for military service which has been or will be used in
3 qualifying for annuity benefit payments from another retirement system financed
4 wholly or in part by public funds.

5 (3) A member having twenty (20) years or more of active duty in the military service,
6 and who is qualified for regular federal retirement benefits based on this military
7 service, may not receive credit for any military service in the Teachers' Retirement
8 System. This subsection shall apply to service presented for credit on July 1, 1975,
9 and after this date.

10 (4) (a) ~~[An individual who became]~~A member receiving~~[prior to January 1, 2019,~~
11 ~~who desires to receive]~~ retirement credit for active duty in the armed services
12 of the United States prior to employment in a position covered by the
13 retirement system or where the member leaves covered employment without
14 giving advance written or verbal notice of performing duty in the uniformed
15 services shall pay to the retirement system the full actuarial cost of the service
16 credit purchased as provided under KRS 161.220(22). These contributions
17 shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 161.540(2). In purchasing
18 retirement credit for active duty in the armed services, the latest years of
19 service shall be considered first in allowing credit toward retirement. The
20 board of trustees shall adopt a table of actuarial factors to be used in
21 calculating the amount of contribution required for crediting this service.

22 (b) If military service occurred after the member gave written or verbal notice of
23 performing duty in the uniformed services and the member returns directly
24 from uniformed services to covered employment, the member shall contribute
25 the regular member contribution required by KRS 161.540. The member may
26 make the payment of delayed contributions in a lump sum payment or in
27 installments not to exceed five (5) years beginning with the member's date of

1 reemployment. Interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum shall be
 2 charged for delayed contributions beginning with the member's date of
 3 reemployment until paid. Members participating in the supplemental benefit
 4 component~~[hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 161.235]~~ who make
 5 the regular member contribution required by this paragraph, shall also receive
 6 the mandatory employer contributions in the supplemental benefit
 7 component~~[credits]~~ for the period of service purchased.

8 (5) An active contributing member of the Teachers' Retirement System~~[who became a~~
 9 ~~member of the system prior to January 1, 2019,]~~ may receive service credit for
 10 service in the military reserves of the United States or the National Guard. The
 11 member may purchase one (1) month of service for each six (6) months of service
 12 in the reserves or the National Guard. Notwithstanding any other statute, regulation,
 13 or policy to the contrary, the system shall provide a member, upon request, the
 14 estimated actuarial cost of the National Guard or military reserves service purchase
 15 based upon the information available at the time of the request. The member shall
 16 be entitled to enter into a contract with the system at the time of the request to
 17 purchase the National Guard or military reserve service by paying to the system the
 18 estimated actuarial cost, either by installments or in lump sum. The member shall
 19 pay the full actuarial cost of this service in the military reserves or the National
 20 Guard as provided in KRS 161.220(22). Service in the military reserves or the
 21 National Guard shall be treated as service earned prior to participation in the system
 22 and shall not be used for meeting the service requirements set forth in KRS
 23 161.600(1)(a) or 161.661(1) or subsection (2) of Section 9 of this Act. The payment
 24 shall not be picked up by the employer, as described in KRS 161.540(2).

25 ➔Section 18. KRS 161.515 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 26 follows:

27 (1) For the purposes of this section, "out-of-state service" shall mean service in any

1 state in a comparable position on a full-time basis, which would be covered if in
2 Kentucky.

3 (2) (a) An active contributing member who has been a contributing member of the
4 retirement system for at least one (1) full scholastic year subsequent to the
5 latest out-of-state service, may present for credit service rendered out of state,
6 not to exceed ten (10) years actually taught as a certified or licensed teacher.
7 All members who elect to purchase this service shall pay to the retirement
8 system the full actuarial cost as provided under KRS 161.220(22). For each
9 year of which the retirement system shall accept payment, one (1) year of
10 service credit shall be given. For members who purchased this service under
11 the cost formula as it existed under this subsection on June 30, 2005, this
12 credit may not be used to meet the service requirements of KRS 161.525,
13 161.600, or 161.661, except as provided in subsection (2)(c) of this section.
14 No credit shall be granted for service which has been or will be used in
15 qualifying for annuity benefit payments from another retirement system
16 financed wholly or in part by public funds.

17 (b) A member of the retirement system having teaching service in the elementary
18 or secondary schools operated by the United States overseas or in this country,
19 or in a public college or university in Kentucky, not included in the Teachers'
20 Retirement System of the State of Kentucky, may present this service for
21 credit in the retirement system on the same basis as provided above for out-of-
22 state service credit; however, no service may be presented which shall be used
23 as a basis for retirement benefits in any program supported wholly or in part
24 by a public institution or governmental agency. This service when added to
25 service credited under subsection (2)(a) of this section shall not exceed a total
26 of ten (10) years' service credit.

27 (c) A member having service referred to in subsection (2)(a) or (2)(b) of this

1 section who purchased this service under the cost formula as it existed under
2 those subsections on June 30, 2005, may elect to use this service for meeting
3 the requirements of KRS 161.600(1)(c) by making an additional contribution
4 to the state accumulation fund equal to a member contribution rate of eight
5 percent (8%) for each year so used. These payments shall not be picked up as
6 described in KRS 161.540(2). The salary base to be used in determining this
7 additional contribution shall be the final average salary which is used in
8 calculating the member's regular retirement annuity.

9 (3) Members entering the Teachers' Retirement System for the first time, July 1, 1976,
10 and after this date, shall not receive credit for service defined in subsections (2)(a)
11 or (2)(b) of this section in excess of one (1) year of credit for each two (2) years of
12 Kentucky service in a covered position or ten (10) years, whichever is the lesser
13 number.

14 (4) A member, having completed service as a volunteer in the Kentucky Peace Corps
15 created by KRS 154.1-720, may purchase service credit for the time served in the
16 corps on the same basis as provided in this section for the purchase of out-of-state
17 service credit. A member, having completed service as a federal Peace Corps
18 volunteer, may purchase up to two (2) years of service credit for time served in the
19 Peace Corps on the same basis as provided in this section for the purchase of out-of-
20 state service credit.

21 (5) Service purchased under this section by members **shall be credited based upon the**
22 **retirement factor established by Section 10 of this Act, as applicable** ~~who at the~~
23 ~~time of purchase are employed by employers other than those described in KRS~~
24 ~~161.220(4)(b) or (n) shall be credited, as described in KRS 161.620(1)(a) and (b),~~
25 ~~with a retirement factor of two and one-half percent (2.5%) for each year of service~~
26 ~~that was originally performed on or after July 1, 1983, and two percent (2.0%) for~~
27 ~~each year of service performed before July 1, 1983. Service purchased under this~~

1 ~~section by members who at the time of purchase are employed by employers~~
 2 ~~described in KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n) shall be credited, as described in KRS~~
 3 ~~161.620(1)(a), with a retirement factor of two percent (2.0%) for each year of~~
 4 ~~service, regardless of when the service was performed].~~

5 ~~[(6) Effective January 1, 2019, this section does not apply to individuals who become~~
 6 ~~members on or after January 1, 2019.]~~

7 ➔Section 19. KRS 161.520 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
 8 follows:

9 Upon the death of an active contributing member or upon the death of a member retired
 10 for disability, except as provided in KRS 161.661(6), the survivors of the deceased
 11 member in the following named order, may elect to receive a survivor's benefit payable as
 12 follows:

13 (1) Where there is a surviving widow or widower who is named as the primary
 14 beneficiary of the member's retirement account, the benefit shall be:

15 (a) One hundred eighty dollars (\$180) per month with no restriction on other
 16 income;

17 (b) Two hundred forty dollars (\$240) per month when the surviving widow or
 18 widower's total income from all sources does not exceed six thousand six
 19 hundred dollars (\$6,600) per year or five hundred fifty dollars (\$550) per
 20 month; or

21 (c) If the deceased member has a minimum of ten (10) years of service credit with
 22 the Teachers' Retirement System, the surviving widow or widower may apply
 23 for an annuity actuarially equivalent to the annuity that would have been paid
 24 to the deceased member when eligibility conditions were met. Eligibility for
 25 payments would begin at the time the age of the deceased member would have
 26 met the requirements of KRS ~~{161.235(6) or }~~161.600(1) **or subsection (2) of**
 27 **Section 9 of this Act**, as applicable. In exercising this right, the surviving

1 widow or widower shall be entitled to receive an annuity for life, except as
2 provided in subsection (6) of this section. This subsection applies to surviving
3 spouses of members who die on or after July 1, 1978. A surviving widow or
4 widower of a member who dies after July 1, 1978, shall be eligible for benefit
5 payments provided under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection until they
6 begin receiving payments under this provision;

7 (2) (a) Where there are surviving unmarried children under age eighteen (18) or
8 under age nineteen (19) if a full-time student in high school, the benefit shall
9 be two hundred dollars (\$200) per month in the case of one (1) child, three
10 hundred forty dollars (\$340) per month in the case of two (2) children, four
11 hundred dollars (\$400) per month in the case of three (3) children, and four
12 hundred forty dollars (\$440) per month in the case of four (4) or more
13 children. Benefits under this subsection shall apply in addition to benefits
14 which may be payable under subsections (1) and (3) of this section.

15 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the surviving spouse
16 may elect to receive a lump-sum refund of the member's accumulated account
17 balance in lieu of the survivorship benefits payable under this subsection and
18 subsection (1) of this section only if the surviving spouse is designated as the
19 primary beneficiary and:

20 1. Is a biological or adoptive parent of all children eligible for a benefit
21 under this subsection and has not had his or her parental rights
22 terminated; or

23 2. Has been appointed as legal guardian of all of the children eligible under
24 paragraph (a) of this subsection.

25 (c) To elect a lump-sum refund of the member's accumulated account balance
26 under paragraph (b) of this subsection, the surviving spouse who is designated
27 as the primary beneficiary must sign a waiver on forms prescribed by the

1 retirement system of his or her rights and the member's children's rights to the
2 survivorship benefits payable under this subsection and subsection (1) of this
3 section. The surviving spouse shall not waive the survivorship benefits
4 available under this subsection or subsections (1) and (6) of this section if any
5 of the member's children have attained age eighteen (18) or older unless all of
6 those children consent in writing on forms prescribed by the retirement system
7 to waive their survivorship benefits available under this subsection;

8 (3) (a) Where the survivor is a child age eighteen (18) or older whose mental or
9 physical condition is sufficient to cause his dependency on the deceased
10 member at the time of the member's death, the benefit shall be two hundred
11 dollars (\$200) per month, payable for the life of the child or until the time as
12 the mental or physical condition creating the dependency no longer exists or
13 the child marries. The mental or physical condition of the adult child shall be
14 revealed by a competent examination by a licensed physician and shall be
15 approved by a majority of a medical review committee as defined in KRS
16 161.661(14). Benefits under this subsection shall apply in addition to benefits
17 which may be payable under subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

18 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the surviving spouse
19 shall not elect to receive a lump-sum refund of the member's accumulated
20 account balance in lieu of the survivorship benefits payable under this
21 subsection and subsection (1) of this section unless:

- 22 1. The surviving spouse is designated as the primary beneficiary;
- 23 2. The surviving spouse has been appointed by the court as guardian,
24 conservator, or other fiduciary with sufficient general or specific
25 authority to waive the survivorship benefits available under this
26 subsection for any child or children age eighteen (18) or older who have
27 been adjudicated incompetent to make decisions on their own behalf by

1 a court of law; and

2 3. Any child or children age eighteen (18) or older who are mentally
3 competent to make decisions on their own behalf as attested to by two
4 (2) physicians' statements consent in writing on forms prescribed by the
5 retirement system to waive their survivorship benefits available under
6 this subsection.

7 (c) If eligible to elect a lump-sum refund of the member's accumulated account
8 balance, the surviving spouse shall sign a waiver on forms prescribed by the
9 retirement system of his or her rights and the member's children's rights to the
10 survivorship benefits payable under this subsection and subsections (1) and
11 (2) of this section;

12 (4) Where the sole eligible survivors are dependent parents aged sixty-five (65) or over,
13 the benefit shall be two hundred dollars (\$200) per month for one (1) parent or two
14 hundred ninety dollars (\$290) per month for two (2) parents. Dependency of a
15 parent shall be established as of the date of the death of the member;

16 (5) Where the sole eligible survivor is a dependent brother or sister, the benefit shall be
17 one hundred sixty five dollars (\$165) per month. In order to qualify the brother or
18 sister must have been a resident of the deceased member's household for at least one
19 (1) full year prior to the member's death or must have been receiving care in a
20 hospital, nursing home, or other institution at the member's expense for same
21 period;

22 (6) The benefit to a child as defined in subsection (2) of this section shall terminate
23 upon the attainment of age eighteen (18) or upon reaching age nineteen (19), if a
24 full-time student in high school, or upon marriage, except that benefits shall
25 continue until the attainment of age twenty-three (23) for an unmarried child who is
26 a full-time student in a recognized educational program beyond the high school
27 level. The benefit to a widow, widower, dependent parent, or dependent brother or

1 sister or dependent child age eighteen (18) or older shall terminate upon marriage,
2 or upon termination of the condition creating the dependency;

3 (7) The board of trustees shall be the sole judge of eligibility or dependency of any
4 beneficiary, and may require formal application or information relating to eligibility
5 or dependency, including proof of annual income satisfactory to the board. The
6 board of trustees may subpoena records and individuals whenever it deems this
7 action necessary;

8 (8) No payment of benefits shall be made unless the board of trustees authorizes the
9 payment. The board shall promulgate administrative regulations for the
10 administration of the provisions in this section and in every case the decision of the
11 board of trustees shall be final as to eligibility, dependency, or disability, and the
12 amount of benefits payable;

13 (9) In the event that there are no eligible survivors as defined in subsections (1) to (5)
14 of this section, or in the event that the surviving spouse elects not to receive
15 survivorship benefits on his or her own behalf or on behalf of any of the member's
16 children as permitted under subsections (2) and (3) of this section, the board of
17 trustees shall pay to the estate or the designated beneficiaries of the deceased
18 member a refund of his accumulated account balance as provided in KRS
19 161.470(7). If the benefits paid or payable under subsections (1) to (5) of this
20 section and KRS 161.661 shall amount to a sum less than the member's
21 accumulated account balance at the time of death, the board of trustees shall pay to
22 the estate or designated beneficiaries of the deceased member the balance of the
23 accumulated account balance;

24 (10) Any person who is receiving benefits and becomes disqualified from receiving
25 those benefits under this section shall immediately notify the Teachers' Retirement
26 System of this disqualification in writing and shall return all benefits paid after the
27 date of disqualification. Failure to comply with these provisions shall create an

1 indebtedness of that person to the Teachers' Retirement System. Interest at the rate
2 of eight percent (8%) per annum shall be charged if the debt is not repaid within
3 sixty (60) days after the date of disqualification. Failure to repay this debt creates a
4 lien in favor of the Teachers' Retirement System upon all property of the person
5 who improperly receives benefits and does not repay those benefits; and

6 (11) Benefits under subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall apply to a child who is a
7 legally adopted survivor at the time of the death of the member. This provision shall
8 be retroactive to include a child who was born after January 1, 1990, and is a legally
9 adopted survivor of a member whose death occurred prior to July 15, 2008.

10 ➔Section 20. KRS 161.522 is amended to read as follows:

11 Upon the death of a member retired for disability who had a minimum of twenty-seven
12 (27) years of service at the time of death, except as provided in KRS 161.661(6), the
13 spouse, if named as the primary beneficiary of the member's account, shall be entitled to
14 elect, in lieu of a refund of the member's account, an annuity actuarially equivalent to the
15 annuity that would have been paid to the deceased member had retirement for service
16 been effective on the day immediately preceding the member's death. This option shall be
17 available only during the entitlement period described under KRS 161.661(3) and (4)
18 prior to the recalculation of the member's disability allowance under KRS 161.661(5). In
19 selecting this right, the spouse shall be limited to selecting an option providing a straight
20 life annuity with refundable balance or a term certain option. There shall be a monthly
21 minimum allowance of three hundred dollars (\$300) as the basic straight life annuity.
22 This section applies to surviving spouses of members who were receiving benefit
23 payments under KRS 161.520 as of June 30, 1988, and to surviving spouses of members
24 who die on or after July 1, 1984, except that the member shall have been retired for
25 disability with a minimum of thirty (30) years of service if either of these two (2)
26 conditions were met prior to July 1, 1990. ~~This section does not apply to individuals who
27 become members on or after January 1, 2019.~~

1 ➔Section 21. KRS 161.525 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
2 follows:

3 (1) Upon death of a member in active contributing status at the time of death, who was
4 eligible to retire by reason of service, the spouse, if named as the primary
5 beneficiary of the member's retirement account, or in the absence of an eligible
6 spouse a legal dependent of the member, if named as the primary beneficiary, shall
7 be entitled to elect, in lieu of a refund of the member's accumulated account balance
8 or benefits provided in KRS 161.520, an annuity actuarially equivalent at the
9 attained age of the beneficiary to the annuity that would have been paid to the
10 deceased member had retirement been effective on the day immediately preceding
11 the member's death. Under the provisions of KRS 61.680, benefits shall be
12 processed as if the member retired for service. In exercising this right the spouse or
13 legal dependent shall be limited to selecting an option providing either a straight life
14 annuity with refundable balance or a term certain option. A spouse may receive the
15 annuity provided by this section at the same time as children are qualifying for
16 survivors' benefits under the provisions of KRS 161.520; however, a legal
17 dependent, other than a spouse, may not receive these payments if children have
18 qualified for benefits under that section.

19 (2) A spouse qualifying for an annuity under subsection (1) of this section may defer
20 the payments in order to reduce the actuarial discounts to be applied due to age.

21 (3) Upon death of a member in active contributing status at the time of his death, who
22 had a minimum of twenty-seven (27) years of service, the spouse, if named as the
23 primary beneficiary of the member's account shall be entitled to a monthly
24 minimum allowance of three hundred dollars (\$300) as the basic straight life
25 annuity. This provision applies to surviving spouses of members who were
26 receiving benefit payments under KRS 161.520 as of June 30, 1986, and to
27 surviving spouses of members who die on or after July 1, 1986. ~~This subsection~~

1 ~~does not apply to individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2019.]~~

2 ➔Section 22. KRS 161.545 is amended to read as follows:

- 3 (1) (a) Members may make contributions and receive service credit for substitute,
4 part-time, or any service other than regular full-time teaching as provided in
5 the administrative regulations of the board of trustees if contributions were not
6 otherwise made as a result of the service.~~[This paragraph does not apply to~~
7 ~~members who retired on or after January 1, 2019, and are reemployed on or~~
8 ~~after January 1, 2019.]~~
- 9 (b) Members placed on leave of absence during a period of full-time employment
10 as defined in KRS 161.220(21) may make contributions and receive service
11 credit for this leave only if contributions are made by the end of the fiscal year
12 next succeeding the year in which the leave was effective as provided in
13 administrative regulations promulgated by the board of trustees. Contributions
14 permitted after August 1, 1982, shall not be picked-up pursuant to KRS
15 161.540(2).
- 16 (2) Active contributing members of the Teachers' Retirement System, or former
17 members who are currently participating in a state-administered retirement system,
18 who were granted leaves of absence during a period of full-time employment as
19 defined in KRS 161.220(21) since July 1, 1964, for reasons of health as defined
20 under the Federal Family Medical Leave Act of 1993, 29 U.S.C. secs. 2601 et seq.,
21 child rearing, or to improve their educational qualifications, and did not purchase
22 the leave of absence as provided in subsection (1) of this section may obtain credit
23 for the leave of absence as provided under the administrative regulations of the
24 board of trustees and under the following conditions:
- 25 (a) The leave of absence shall be verified by a copy of the board of education
26 minutes which granted the leave of absence or by other documentation that
27 was generated contemporaneously with the leave that is determined by the

1 retirement system to reasonably establish that a leave of absence was granted;
2 and

3 (b) The member shall contribute the required percentage based on the salary
4 received for the year immediately preceding the leave of absence plus interest
5 at the rate of eight percent (8%) compounded annually from the beginning of
6 the school year following the year of the leave of absence, and by depositing
7 in the state accumulation fund an amount equal to this total.

8 (c) The member shall receive credit for no more than two (2) years under the
9 provisions of this subsection.

10 (3) Contributions permitted under this section after August 1, 1982, shall not be picked-
11 up pursuant to KRS 161.540(2).

12 (4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, purchase of
13 service credit under subsection (2) of this section~~[-]~~

14 ~~[(a)]~~ for individuals who become members on or after July 1, 2008~~[-, but prior to~~
15 ~~January 1, 2019]~~, shall be purchasable only at the full actuarial cost~~[-; and~~

16 ~~(b) Shall not apply to individuals who become members on or after January 1,~~
17 ~~2019].~~

18 ➔Section 23. KRS 161.5465 is amended to read as follows:

19 On or after August 1, 1998, a member of the Teachers' Retirement System in active
20 contributing status who has a minimum of twenty (20) years of service credit may
21 purchase up to a maximum of five (5) years of service credit that is not otherwise
22 purchasable under any of the provisions of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 and that meets the
23 definition of nonqualified service as provided in Section 1526 of the Federal Taxpayer
24 Relief Act of 1997. The member shall pay the full actuarial cost of the service credit as
25 provided in KRS 161.220(22). The payment shall not be picked up by the employer as
26 described in KRS 161.540(2), and the member's payment shall be credited to the
27 member's contribution account and shall be considered accumulated contributions of the

1 member. Payment by the member may be by lump sum or by installment payments as
 2 provided in KRS 161.597. Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, the
 3 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System shall recognize nonqualified service credit
 4 purchased with another retirement system only to the extent that the member had an
 5 equivalent number of full months of active employment in the position covered by the
 6 other retirement system during the period that the nonqualified service was purchased.

7 This section shall not apply to ~~the~~:

8 ~~(1) Individuals who become members on or after July 1, 2008, but prior to January 1,~~
 9 ~~2019], except that a teacher of a local school board may purchase up to ten (10)~~
 10 ~~months of service under this section if the teacher is retiring and has completed the~~
 11 ~~prior school year with at least twenty-six (26) years and two (2) months of service~~
 12 ~~but less than twenty-seven (27) years of service]; and~~

13 ~~(2) Individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2019].~~

14 ➔Section 24. KRS 161.547 is amended to read as follows:

15 ~~[An individual who became]~~A member of the retirement system **having**~~[prior to January~~
 16 ~~1, 2019, who has]~~ service as a Kentucky legislator which is not credited by any retirement
 17 system administered by the Commonwealth of Kentucky may present such service, not to
 18 exceed four (4) years, for credit in the retirement system by paying the full actuarial cost
 19 of the service as determined by the system actuary. The member may purchase all or part
 20 of his service as a legislator, but no less than one (1) year of service. The entire payment
 21 shall be placed in the teachers' saving fund.

22 ➔Section 25. KRS 161.548 is amended to read as follows:

23 ~~[An individual who became]~~A member of the Teachers' Retirement System ~~[prior to~~
 24 ~~January 1, 2019,]~~ who is in an active contributing status with the system, and who was
 25 formerly employed in a regional community service program for mental health and
 26 individuals with an intellectual disability, organized and operated under the provisions of
 27 KRS 210.370 to 210.480, which does not participate in a state-administered retirement

1 system, may obtain credit for the period of his service in the regional community program
2 for mental health and individuals with an intellectual disability by paying to the Teachers'
3 Retirement System the full actuarial cost of the service credit purchased, as provided in
4 KRS 161.220(22). The service credit purchased may not be used for meeting the service
5 requirements set forth in KRS 161.600(1)(a) or 161.661(1) **or subsection (2) of Section 9**
6 **of this Act**. The payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS 161.540(2), and the
7 entire payment shall be placed in the teachers' savings fund.

8 ➔Section 26. KRS 161.549 is amended to read as follows:

9 ~~[An individual who became]~~A member of the Teachers' Retirement System ~~[prior to~~
10 ~~January 1, 2019,]~~who is in an active contributing status with the system, and who was
11 formerly employed by a Federal Head Start agency, operated under 42 U.S.C. secs. 9831
12 et seq., which does not participate in a state-administered retirement system, may obtain
13 credit for the period of the member's service in the Head Start program by purchasing this
14 service credit under the same conditions that out-of-state service credit may be purchased
15 under KRS 161.515. The service credit purchased may not be used for meeting the
16 service requirements set forth in KRS 161.600(1)(a), **subsection (2) of Section 9 of this**
17 **Act**, or 161.661(1). Payment for the service credit purchased may be made in installments
18 in lieu of a lump-sum payment. The payment shall not be picked up, as described in KRS
19 161.540(2), and the entire payment shall be placed in the teachers' savings fund.

20 ➔Section 27. KRS 161.568 is amended to read as follows:

21 (1) Eligibility to participate in the optional retirement plan shall be determined by the
22 board of regents of each of the state public postsecondary education institutions
23 identified in KRS 161.220(4)(b). The employees of these institutions of higher
24 education who are initially employed on or after the implementation date of the
25 optional retirement plan may make an election to participate in the optional
26 retirement plan within thirty (30) days after their employment date. This election
27 shall be irrevocable except as otherwise provided in this subsection. No member of

1 the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System who terminates employment and is
2 subsequently reemployed by the same or another public postsecondary education
3 institution which participates in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may be
4 eligible to elect to participate in the optional retirement plan unless the date of
5 reemployment is at least six (6) months after the date of termination. All elections
6 made under this subsection shall be in writing and shall be filed with the
7 appropriate officer of the employer institution. Persons who originally elected to
8 participate in the optional retirement plan may later change their elections only as
9 follows:

10 (a) Any person otherwise eligible for membership in the Kentucky Teachers'
11 Retirement System may irrevocably elect one (1) time during his or her
12 lifetime to change his or her election and to prospectively participate in the
13 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System. This election to change from the
14 optional retirement plan to Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System shall be
15 effective beginning on the first day of the first month immediately following
16 the date that written application for the election is received in the retirement
17 system's office on forms prescribed by the system. Any person exercising this
18 election shall not be entitled to purchase as service credit in the Kentucky
19 Teachers' Retirement System any prior service with his or her postsecondary
20 education institution employer;

21 (b) Any person otherwise eligible for membership in the Kentucky Teachers'
22 Retirement System who previously elected to participate in the optional
23 retirement plan may irrevocably elect one (1) time within his or her first six
24 (6) years and six (6) months of continuous service in any one (1) or more of
25 the institutions identified in KRS 161.220(4)(b), to change his or her election
26 and to prospectively participate in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
27 and also become eligible to purchase as service credit his or her prior service

1 with his or her postsecondary education employer. This election to change
2 from the optional retirement plan to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
3 System shall be effective beginning on the first day of the first month
4 immediately following the date that written application for the election is
5 received in the retirement system's office on forms prescribed by the
6 retirement system. Persons electing to change from the optional retirement
7 plan to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may purchase service
8 credit only for their prior years of service for a postsecondary education
9 institution identified in KRS 161.220(4)(b) during which they participated in
10 the optional retirement plan. The election to purchase prior service as service
11 credit shall be received in the retirement system's office on forms prescribed
12 by the retirement system within the six (6) year and six (6) month period
13 provided to make the election to begin participation in the Kentucky Teachers'
14 Retirement System. The cost of purchasing this service shall be calculated by
15 adding both the employer and member contributions that would have been
16 paid to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System had the individual
17 purchasing this service participated in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
18 System instead of the optional retirement plan, less the amount contributed to
19 the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System by the postsecondary education
20 institution as provided by KRS 161.569(5), or KRS 161.569(5)(a)2. as it
21 existed on June 30, 2007. Interest at Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System's
22 actuarially assumed rate shall be paid on these net contributions by the person
23 electing to change to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System from the
24 optional retirement plan. These payments shall not be picked up as described
25 in KRS 161.540(2). Persons who elect to change from the optional retirement
26 plan to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may elect to purchase as
27 service credit, beginning with the most recent years, any portion of their prior

1 years of service during which time they participated in the optional retirement
2 plan, or none of those years. Members may purchase service credit for prior
3 years of service by rolling over funds from their optional retirement plan
4 account as provided under KRS 161.5461, or by rolling over or transferring
5 other plan funds as permitted by the rules set forth in the Internal Revenue
6 Code, or by making an after-tax lump-sum cash payment~~[- This paragraph
7 does not apply to individuals who become members on or after January 1,
8 2019];~~

9 (c) Effective July 1, 2008, persons otherwise eligible for membership in the
10 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may irrevocably elect one (1) time to
11 change their election and to prospectively participate in the Kentucky
12 Teachers' Retirement System and purchase service credit for their prior years
13 of service during which they participated in the optional retirement plan. This
14 election shall be filed in writing with the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
15 System no later than December 31, 2008. Persons who change their election
16 prior to July 1, 2008, to prospectively participate in the Kentucky Teachers'
17 Retirement System may purchase service credit for their prior years of service
18 during which they participated in the optional retirement plan. The purchase
19 of prior years of service under this paragraph shall be subject to the same
20 conditions and purchase costs as described in paragraph (b) of this subsection,
21 except that the election to purchase service credit shall be on file with the
22 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System no later than December 31, 2008~~[-
23 This paragraph does not apply to individuals who become members on or after
24 January 1, 2019];~~ and

25 (d) Persons electing to change to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
26 under paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this subsection shall be eligible to
27 participate, based upon their age and allowable service credit, in the disability,

1 survivorship, and medical insurance programs under the conditions and in the
2 degree as they exist on the date that they file their election with the retirement
3 system, but shall be subject to any changes to those programs from that date
4 forward, including any changes that may affect their eligibility for or degree of
5 participation in those programs. Prior service purchased as service credit as
6 permitted under paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection shall not be
7 considered for meeting eligibility requirements or determining the extent of
8 participation in these programs. Persons electing to change to the Kentucky
9 Teachers' Retirement System shall not be eligible for the survivorship or
10 disability programs based upon medical conditions that existed prior to the
11 filing of their elections.

12 (2) Elections of eligible employees hired on or after the implementation date of the
13 optional retirement plan at their employer institution shall be effective on the date
14 of their employment. If an eligible employee hired subsequent to the
15 implementation date at the employer institution fails to make the election provided
16 for in this section, the employee shall become a member of the regular retirement
17 plan of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System.

18 ➔Section 28. KRS 161.580 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

19 (1) The board of trustees shall provide for the maintenance of an individual account for
20 each member showing the amount of the member's accumulated account balance.
21 Such individual accounts shall be identified in the records of the system by name,
22 date of birth, and Social Security number. It shall collect and keep in convenient
23 form such data as is necessary for the preparation of the required mortality and
24 service tables and for the compilation of such other information as is required for
25 the actuarial valuation of the assets and liabilities of the various funds of the
26 retirement system.

27 (2) The board shall prepare and furnish to all active contributing members a summary

1 plan description, written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average
2 member or annuitant, and sufficiently accurate and comprehensive to reasonably
3 apprise them of their rights and obligations under the Teachers' Retirement System.
4 The board may furnish the summary plan description by posting it on the retirement
5 system's Web site.

6 (3) The summary plan description shall include:

- 7 (a) The name of the retirement system, the name and address of the executive
8 secretary, and the name, address, and title of each member of the board of
9 trustees;
- 10 (b) The name and address of the person designated for the service of legal
11 process;
- 12 (c) The system's requirements for participation and benefits;
- 13 (d) A description of retirement formulas for normal, early, and disability
14 retirement, and survivor benefits;
- 15 (e) A description of the requirements for vesting of pension benefits;
- 16 (f) A list of circumstances which would result in disqualification, ineligibility, or
17 denial or loss of benefits;
- 18 (g) The sources of financing retirement benefits, and statutory requirements for
19 funding;
- 20 (h) A statement after each actuarial valuation as to whether funding requirements
21 are being met; and
- 22 (i) The procedures to be followed in presenting claims for benefits under the
23 plan, and the remedies available under the plan for the redress of claims which
24 are denied in whole or in part.

25 (4) The board may publish the summary plan description in the form of a
26 comprehensive pamphlet or booklet, or in the form of periodic newsletters which
27 shall incorporate all the information required in the summary plan description

1 within a period of two (2) years. Any changes in statutory requirements or
2 administrative practices which alter the provisions of the plan as described in the
3 summary plan description shall be summarized as required in subsection (2) of this
4 section and furnished to active contributing members in the form of a supplement to
5 a comprehensive booklet, or reported in the periodic newsletter.

6 (5) The board shall provide to annuitants so much of the summary plan description as
7 they need to understand changes in benefits which apply to them.

8 ➔Section 29. KRS 161.585 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

9 (1) Each member's or annuitant's account shall be administered in a confidential
10 manner, and specific data regarding a member or annuitant shall not be released for
11 publication, except that:

12 (a) The member or annuitant may authorize the release of his or her account
13 information;

14 (b) The board of trustees may release member or annuitant account information to
15 the employer or to other state and federal agencies as it deems necessary or in
16 response to a lawful subpoena or order issued by a court of law; or

17 (c) 1. Upon request by any person, the system shall release the following
18 information from the accounts of any member or annuitant of the
19 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, if the member or annuitant is a
20 current or former officeholder in the Kentucky General Assembly:

21 a. The first and last name of the member or annuitant;

22 b. The status of the member or annuitant, including but not limited to
23 whether he or she is a contributing member, a member who is not
24 contributing but has not retired, a retiree receiving a monthly
25 retirement allowance, or a retiree who has returned to work
26 following retirement with an agency participating in the system;

27 c. If the individual is an annuitant, the monthly retirement allowance

1 that he or she was receiving at the end of the most recently
2 completed fiscal year;

3 d. If the individual is a member who has not yet retired, the estimated
4 monthly retirement allowance that he or she is eligible to receive
5 on the first date he or she would be eligible for an unreduced
6 retirement allowance, using his or her service credit, accumulated
7 account balance, and final average salary at the end of the most
8 recently completed fiscal year; and

9 e. The current or last participating employer of the member or
10 annuitant, if applicable.

11 2. No information shall be disclosed under this paragraph from an account
12 that is paying benefits to a beneficiary due to the death of a member or
13 annuitant.

14 (2) The release of information under subsection (1)(c) of this section shall not
15 constitute a violation of the Open Records Act, KRS 61.870 to 61.884.

16 (3) Medical records which are included in a member's or annuitant's file maintained by
17 the Teachers' Retirement System are confidential and shall not be released unless
18 authorized by the member or annuitant in writing or as otherwise provided by law or
19 in response to a lawful subpoena or order issued by a court of law.

20 (4) (a) When a subpoena is served upon any employee of the Kentucky Teachers'
21 Retirement System requiring the production of any data, information, or
22 records, it is sufficient if the employee of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
23 System charged with the responsibility of being custodian of the original, or
24 his or her designated staff, delivers within five (5) working days by certified
25 mail or by personal delivery to the person specified in the subpoena either of
26 the following:

27 1. Legible and durable copies of records certified by the employee or

1 designated staff; or

2 2. An affidavit stating the information required by the subpoena.

3 (b) The production of records or an affidavit shall be in lieu of any personal
4 testimony of any employee of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
5 unless, after the production of records or an affidavit, a separate subpoena is
6 served upon the retirement system specifically directing the testimony of an
7 employee of the retirement system. When a subpoena is served on any
8 employee of the retirement system requiring the employee to give testimony
9 or produce records for any purpose, in the absence of a court order requiring
10 the testimony of or production of records by a specific employee, the system
11 may designate an employee to give testimony or produce records upon the
12 matter referred to in the subpoena. The board of trustees may promulgate an
13 administrative regulation for the recovery of reasonable travel and
14 administrative expenses for those occasions when an employee of the
15 retirement system is required to travel from his or her home or office to
16 provide testimony or records. Recoverable expenses may include the wages,
17 salary, and overtime paid to the employee by the retirement system for the
18 period of time that the employee is away from the office. The cost of these
19 expenses shall be borne by the party issuing the subpoena compelling the
20 employee's travel. The board of trustees may also promulgate an
21 administrative regulation establishing a reasonable fee for the copying,
22 compiling, and mailing of requested records.

23 (c) The certification required by this subsection shall be signed before a notary
24 public by the employee and shall include the full name of the member or
25 annuitant, the member or annuitant identification number assigned to the
26 member or annuitant by the retirement system, and a legend substantially to
27 the following effect: "The records are true and complete reproductions of the

1 original, microfiched, or electronically stored records which are housed in the
2 retirement system's office. This certification is given in lieu of the
3 undersigned's personal appearance."

4 (d) When an affidavit or copies of records are personally delivered, a receipt shall
5 be presented to the person receiving the records for his or her signature and
6 shall be immediately signed and returned to the person delivering the records.
7 When an affidavit or copies of records are sent via certified mail, the receipt
8 used by the postal authorities shall be sufficient to prove receipt of the
9 affidavit or copies of records.

10 (e) When the affidavit or copies of records are delivered to a party for use in
11 deposition they shall, after termination of the deposition, be delivered
12 personally or by certified mail to the clerk of the court or other body before
13 which the action or proceeding is pending.

14 (f) Upon completion of delivery by the retirement system of copies of records by
15 their deposit in the mail or by their personal delivery to the requesting party,
16 the retirement system shall cease to have any responsibility or liability for the
17 records and their continued maintenance in a confidential manner.

18 (g) Records of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System that are susceptible to
19 reproduction may be proved as to foundation, identity, and authenticity
20 without preliminary testimony, by use of legible and durable copies, certified
21 in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.(h) The provisions of
22 this subsection shall not be construed to prohibit the Kentucky Teachers'
23 Retirement System from asserting any exemption, exception, or relief
24 provided under the Kentucky Rules of Civil Procedure or other applicable
25 law.

26 (5) For purposes of this section, "records" includes retirement estimates, affidavits, and
27 other documents prepared by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System in

1 response to information requested in a lawful subpoena or order issued by a court of
2 law.

3 ➔Section 30. KRS 161.590 is amended to read as follows:

- 4 (1) At retirement the total service credited to a teacher shall consist of prior and
5 subsequent service rendered by him for which service credit has been allowed.
- 6 (2) Kentucky service, presented at the time of retirement, may not be used in
7 calculating benefits under KRS ~~[161.235,]~~161.525, 161.620, or 161.661, if such
8 service has been used to increase benefits in another retirement system, not
9 including Old Age and Survivors Insurance Benefits under the Social Security
10 Administration.
- 11 (3) No service credit shall be added to a member's account after the effective date of
12 retirement for service.

13 ➔Section 31. KRS 161.595 is amended to read as follows:

- 14 (1) Upon service retirement, ~~[an individual who becomes]~~ a member of the Teachers'
15 Retirement System~~[prior to January 1, 2019,]~~ may obtain credit for all or any part
16 of the service otherwise creditable under the Kentucky Employees Retirement
17 System, the County Employees Retirement System, or in the service of the United
18 States government for which service credit is not otherwise given, upon the
19 payment by the member of the full actuarial cost of the service credit purchased as
20 defined in KRS 161.220(22). Such payments shall not be picked up, as described in
21 KRS 161.540(2).
- 22 (2) The amount paid under this section shall be considered as accumulated
23 contributions of the individual member.
- 24 (3) No person shall be allowed credit for the same period of service in more than one
25 (1) of these three (3) retirement systems.

26 ➔Section 32. KRS 161.605 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
27 follows:

1 Any member retired by reason of service may return to work in a position covered by the
2 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and continue to receive his or her retirement
3 allowance under the following conditions:

4 (1) Any member who is retired with thirty (30) or more years of service may return to
5 work in a full-time or a part-time position covered by the Kentucky Teachers'
6 Retirement System and earn up to a maximum of seventy-five percent (75%) of the
7 member's last annual compensation measured on a daily rate to be determined by
8 the board of trustees. For purposes of determining whether the salary of a member
9 returning to work is seventy-five percent (75%) or less of the member's last annual
10 compensation, all remuneration paid and benefits provided to the member, on an
11 actual dollar or fair market value basis as determined by the retirement system, shall
12 be considered. Members who were retired on or before June 30, 2002, shall be
13 entitled to return to work under the provisions of this section as if they had retired
14 with thirty (30) years of service. Nonqualified service credit purchased under the
15 provisions of KRS 161.5465 or elsewhere with any state-administered retirement
16 system shall not be used to meet the thirty (30) year requirement set forth in this
17 subsection. Out-of state teaching service provided in public schools for kindergarten
18 through grade twelve (12) may count toward the thirty (30) year requirement set
19 forth in this subsection even if it is not purchased as service credit, if the member
20 obtains from his or her out-of-state employer certification of this service on forms
21 prescribed by the retirement system;

22 (2) Any member who is retired with less than thirty (30) years of service after June 30,
23 2002, may return to work in a full-time or part-time position covered by the
24 Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and earn up to a maximum of sixty-five
25 percent (65%) of the member's last annual compensation measured on a daily rate to
26 be determined by the board of trustees. For purposes of determining whether the
27 salary of a member returning to work is sixty-five percent (65%) or less of the

1 member's last annual compensation, all remuneration paid and benefits provided to
2 the member, on an actual dollar or fair market value basis as determined by the
3 retirement system, shall be considered;

4 (3) Reemployment of a retired member under subsection (1) or (2) of this section in a
5 full-time teaching or nonteaching position in a local school district shall be
6 permitted only if the employer certifies to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
7 System that there are no other qualified applicants available to fill the teaching or
8 nonteaching position. The employer may use any source considered reliable
9 including but not limited to data provided by the Education Professional Standards
10 Board and the Department of Education to determine whether other qualified
11 applicants are available to fill the teaching or nonteaching position. The Kentucky
12 Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations to establish
13 procedures to determine whether other qualified applicants are available to fill a
14 teaching or nonteaching position and, if not, for filling the position with a retired
15 member who will then be permitted to return to work in that position under
16 subsection (1) or (2) of this section. The administrative regulations shall assure that
17 a retired member shall not be hired in a teaching or nonteaching position by a local
18 school district until the superintendent of the school district assures the Kentucky
19 Teachers' Retirement System that every reasonable effort has been made to recruit
20 other qualified applicants for the position on an annual basis;

21 (4) Under this section, an employer may employ full-time a number of retired members
22 not to exceed three percent (3%) of the membership actively employed full-time by
23 that employer. The board of trustees may reduce this three percent (3%) cap upon
24 recommendation of the retirement system's actuary if a reduction is necessary to
25 maintain the actuarial soundness of the retirement system. The board of trustees
26 may increase the three percent (3%) cap upon a determination that an increase is
27 warranted to help address a shortage in the number of available teachers and upon

1 the determination of the retirement system's actuary that the proposed cap increase
2 allows the actuarial soundness of the retirement system to be maintained. For
3 purposes of this subsection, "full-time" means the same as defined by KRS
4 161.220(21). A local school district may exceed the quota established by this
5 subsection by making an annual written request to the Kentucky Department of
6 Education which the department may approve on a year-by-year basis if the
7 statewide quota has not been met. A district's written request to exceed its quota
8 shall be submitted no sooner than two (2) weeks after the start of the school year;

9 (5) (a) ~~Except as provided by subsection (10) of this section,~~ A member returning
10 to work in a full-time or part-time position under subsection (1) or (2) of this
11 section will contribute to an account with the retirement system that will be
12 administered independently from and with no reciprocal impact with the
13 member's original retirement account, or any other account from which the
14 member is eligible to draw a retirement allowance.

15 (b) ~~Except as provided by subsection (10) of this section,~~ A member returning
16 to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall make contributions to
17 the retirement system at the rate provided under KRS 161.540. The new
18 account shall independently meet the five (5) year vesting requirement as well
19 as all other conditions set forth in KRS 161.600(1) or (2), as applicable,
20 before any retirement allowance is payable from this account. The retirement
21 allowance accruing under this new account shall be calculated pursuant to
22 KRS 161.620~~[(1)(b)]~~. This new account shall not entitle the member to a
23 duplication of the benefits offered under KRS 161.620(7) or 161.675, nor
24 shall this new account provide the benefits offered by KRS 161.520, 161.525,
25 161.620(3), 161.655, 161.661, or 161.663.

26 (c) A member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall
27 waive his or her medical insurance with the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement

1 System during the period of reemployment and shall receive the medical
2 insurance coverage that is generally provided by the member's active employer
3 to the other members of the retirement system that the active employer
4 employs. If medical insurance coverage is not available from the employer,
5 the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may provide coverage for the
6 member.

7 (d) A member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall
8 not be eligible to purchase service credit for any service provided after the
9 member's effective date of retirement but prior to the date that the member
10 returns to work. A member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of
11 this section shall not be eligible to purchase service credit that the member
12 would have otherwise been eligible to purchase prior to the member's initial
13 retirement.

14 (e) A member who returns to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section, or
15 in the event of the death of the member, the member's estate or applicably
16 designated beneficiary, shall be entitled, within ninety (90) days of the posting
17 of the annual report submitted by the employer, to a refund of contributions as
18 permitted and limited by KRS 161.470;

19 (6) The board of trustees may annually, on July 1, adjust the current daily rate of a
20 member's last annual compensation, for each full twelve (12) month period that has
21 elapsed subsequent to the member earning his or her last annual compensation, by
22 the percentage increase in the annual average of the consumer price index for all
23 urban consumers for the calendar year preceding the adjustment as published by the
24 Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, not to exceed five percent (5%) annually. Each
25 annual adjustment shall become part of the member's daily rate base. Failure to
26 comply with the salary limitations set forth in subsections (1) and (2) of this section
27 as may be adjusted by this subsection shall result in a reduction of the member's

1 retirement allowance or any other benefit to which the member would otherwise be
2 entitled on a dollar-for-dollar basis for each dollar that the member exceeds these
3 salary limitations. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a
4 member retiring from a local school district who returns to work for a local school
5 district under subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall be entitled, without any
6 reduction to his or her retirement allowance or any other retirement benefit, to earn
7 a minimum amount equal to one hundred seventy dollars (\$170) per day;

8 (7) (a) A retired member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section
9 shall have separated from service for a period of at least one (1) year if
10 returning to work for the same employer on a full-time basis, and at least three
11 (3) months if returning to work for a different employer on a full-time basis. A
12 retired member returning to work under subsection (1) or (2) of this section on
13 a part-time basis shall have separated from service for a period of at least three
14 (3) months before returning to work for any employer.

15 (b) As an alternative to the separation-from-service requirements in paragraph (a)
16 of this subsection, a retired member who is returning to work for the same
17 employer in a full-time position under subsections (1) and (2) of this section
18 may elect a separation-from-service of not less than two (2) months followed
19 by a forfeiture of the retired member's retirement allowance on a month-to-
20 month basis for each month that the member has separated from service for
21 less than twelve (12) full months. A retired member returning to work for the
22 same employer in a part-time position, or for a different employer in a full-
23 time position, may elect an alternative separation-from-service requirement of
24 at least two (2) months followed by a forfeiture of the member's retirement
25 allowance for one (1) month. During the period that the member forfeits his or
26 her retirement allowance and thereafter, member and employer contributions
27 shall be made to the retirement system as a result of employment in any

1 position subject to membership in the retirement system. The member shall
2 contribute to an account with the retirement system subject to the conditions
3 set forth in subsection (5) of this section. For purposes of measuring the
4 separation-from-service requirements set forth throughout this section, a
5 member's separation-from-service begins on the first day following the last
6 day of paid employment for the member prior to retirement.

7 (c) Failure to comply with the separation-from-service requirements in this
8 subsection voids a member's retirement and the member shall be required to
9 return all the retirement benefits he or she received, with interest, for the
10 period of time that the member returned to work without a sufficient
11 separation from service;

12 (8) (a) Effective July 1, 2004, local school districts may employ retired members in
13 full-time or part-time teaching or administrative positions without limitation
14 on the compensation of the retired members that is otherwise required by
15 subsections (1) and (2) of this section. Under provisions of this subsection, a
16 local school district may only employ retired members to fill critical shortage
17 positions for which there are no other qualified applicants as determined by
18 the local superintendent. The number of retired members that a local school
19 district may employ under this subsection shall be no more than two (2)
20 members per local school district or one percent (1%) of the total active
21 members employed by the local school district on a full-time basis as defined
22 under KRS 161.220(21), whichever number is greater. Retired members
23 returning to work under this subsection shall be subject to the separation-
24 from-service requirements set forth in subsection (7) of this section. Retired
25 members returning to work under this subsection shall waive their medical
26 insurance coverage with the retirement system during their period of
27 reemployment and receive medical insurance coverage that is offered to other

1 full-time members employed by the local school district. Retired members
2 returning to work under this subsection shall contribute to an account subject
3 to the conditions set forth in subsection (5) of this section. Retired members
4 returning to work under this subsection shall make contributions to the
5 retirement system at the rate provided under KRS 161.540. The employer
6 shall make contributions at the rate provided under KRS 161.550. Local
7 school districts shall make annual payments to the retirement system on the
8 compensation paid to the reemployed retirees at the rates determined by the
9 retirement system's actuary that reflect any accrued liability resulting from the
10 reemployment of these members.

11 (b) The Department of Education may employ retired members in full-time or
12 part-time teaching or nonteaching positions without the limitations on
13 compensation otherwise required by subsections (1) and (2) of this section to
14 fill critical shortage areas in the schools it operates, including the Kentucky
15 School for the Blind, the Kentucky School for the Deaf, and the Kentucky
16 Virtual High School, and to serve on audit teams. The department shall be
17 subject to the same requirements as local school districts as provided in
18 paragraph (a) of this subsection, except the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
19 System shall determine the maximum number of employees that may be
20 employed under this paragraph;

21 (9) The return to work limitations set forth in this section shall apply to retired
22 members who are returning to work in the same position from which they retired, or
23 a position substantially similar to the one from which they retired, or a position
24 described in KRS 161.046 or any position listed in KRS 161.220(4) which requires
25 membership in the retirement system. Positions which generally require certification
26 or graduation from a four (4) year college or university as a condition of
27 employment which are created, or changed to remove the position from coverage

1 under KRS 161.220(4) are also subject to the return to work limitations set forth in
2 this section. The board of trustees shall determine whether employment in a
3 nonteaching position is subject to this subsection;

4 (10) ~~[(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, individuals who retire and
5 begin drawing a retirement allowance from one (1) or more of the systems or
6 plans administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, the Teachers'
7 Retirement System, or the Judicial Form Retirement System on or after
8 January 1, 2019, who are reemployed on or after January 1, 2019, with an
9 employer participating in the Teachers' Retirement System shall not be
10 eligible to contribute to or earn benefits in a second retirement account during
11 the period of reemployment. Employers shall be required to pay the employer
12 normal cost for pension benefits established by KRS 161.550 for any period of
13 full-time reemployment to help pay down the unfunded liability of the
14 Teachers' Retirement System pension fund.~~

15 ~~(b)]~~The provisions of subsections (1) to (8) of this section are not subject to KRS
16 161.714;

17 (11) Any member retired by reason of service may waive his or her annuity and return to
18 full-time employment in a position covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
19 System under the following conditions:

20 (a) The member shall receive no annuity payments while employed in a covered
21 position, shall waive his or her medical insurance coverage with the Kentucky
22 Teachers' Retirement System during the period of reemployment, and shall
23 receive the medical insurance coverage that is generally offered by the
24 member's active employer to the other members of the retirement system
25 employed by the active employer. The member's estate or, if there is a
26 beneficiary applicably designated by the member, then the beneficiary, shall
27 continue to be eligible for life insurance benefits as provided in KRS 161.655.

1 Service subsequent to retirement shall not be used to improve an annuity,
2 except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection;

3 (b) Any member who waives regular annuity benefits and returns to teaching or
4 covered employment shall be entitled to make contributions on the salaries
5 received for this service and have his retirement annuity recalculated as
6 provided in the regular retirement formula in KRS 161.620(1), less any
7 applicable actuarial discount applied to the original retirement allowance due
8 to the election of a joint and last survivor option. Retirement option and
9 beneficiary designation on original retirement shall not be altered by
10 postretirement employment, and dependents and spouses of the members shall
11 not become eligible for benefits under KRS 161.520, 161.525, or 161.661
12 because of postretirement employment;

13 (c) When a member returns to full-time teaching or covered employment as
14 provided in subsection (b) of this section, the employer is required to withhold
15 and remit regular retirement contributions. The member must be employed
16 full-time for at least one (1) consecutive contract year to be eligible to
17 improve an annuity. The member shall be returned to the annuity rolls on July
18 1 following completion of the contract year or on the first day of the month
19 following the month of termination of service if full-time employment
20 exceeds one (1) consecutive contract year. Any discounts applied at the time
21 of the original retirement due to service or age may be reduced or eliminated
22 due to additional employment if full-time employment is for one (1)
23 consecutive contract year or longer; and

24 (d) A member retired by reason of service who has been employed the equivalent
25 of twenty-five (25) days or more during a school year under KRS 161.605
26 may waive the member's retirement annuity and return to regular employment
27 covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System during that school year

1 a maximum of one (1) time during any five (5) year period, beginning with
2 that school year;

3 (12) Retired members may be employed in a part-time teaching capacity by an agency
4 described in KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n), not to exceed the equivalent of twelve (12)
5 teaching hours in any one (1) fiscal year. Retired members may be employed for a
6 period not to exceed the equivalent of one hundred (100) days in any one (1) fiscal
7 year in a part-time administrative or nonteaching capacity by an agency described in
8 KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n) in a position that would otherwise be covered by the
9 retirement system. The return to work provisions set forth in subsections (1) to (8)
10 of this section shall not apply to retired members who return to work solely for an
11 agency described in KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n). Calculation of the number of days
12 and teaching hours for part-time teaching, substitute teaching, or part-time
13 employment in a nonteaching capacity under this section shall not exceed the ratio
14 between a school year and the actual months of retirement for the member during
15 that school year. The board of trustees by administrative regulation may establish
16 fractional equivalents of a day of teaching service. Any member who exceeds the
17 twelve (12) hour or one hundred (100) day limitations of this subsection shall be
18 subject to having his or her retirement voided and be required to return all
19 retirement allowances and other benefits paid to the member or on the member's
20 behalf since the effective date of retirement. In lieu of voiding a member's
21 retirement, the system may reduce the member's retirement allowance or any other
22 benefit to which the member would otherwise be entitled on a dollar-for-dollar basis
23 for each dollar of compensation that the member earns in employment exceeding
24 twelve (12) hours, one hundred (100) days, or any apportionment of the two (2)
25 combined;

26 (13) When a retired member returns to employment in a part-time teaching capacity or in
27 a nonteaching capacity as provided in subsection (12) of this section, the employer

1 shall contribute annually to the retirement system on the compensation paid to the
2 retired member at rates determined by the retirement system actuary that reflect
3 accrued liability for retired members who return to work under subsection (12) of
4 this section; and

5 (14) For retired members who return to work during any one (1) fiscal year in both a
6 position described in KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n) and in a position described under
7 another provision under KRS 161.220(4), and for retired members who return to
8 work in a position described under KRS 161.220(4)(b) or (n) in both a teaching and
9 an administrative or nonteaching capacity, the board of trustees shall adopt a
10 methodology for a pro rata apportionment of days and hours that the retired member
11 may work in each position.

12 ➔Section 33. KRS 161.612 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
13 follows:

14 Effective July 1, 2002, any individual occupying a position on a part-time basis that
15 requires certification or graduation from a four (4) year college or university as a
16 condition of employment and any individual providing part-time or substitute teaching
17 services that are the same or similar to those teaching services provided by certified, full-
18 time teachers shall be a member of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, according
19 to the conditions and only to the extent set forth in this section, if the individual is
20 employed by one (1) of the public boards, institutions, or agencies set forth in KRS
21 161.220, excluding those public boards, institutions, and agencies described in KRS
22 161.220(4)(b) and (n). Members providing part-time and substitute services shall
23 participate in the retirement system as follows:

24 (1) Members providing part-time and substitute services shall accrue service credit as
25 provided under KRS 161.500 and be entitled to a retirement allowance upon
26 meeting the service retirement conditions of KRS ~~{161.235 or }~~161.600~~, as~~
27 ~~applicable~~. The board of trustees shall adopt a methodology for accrediting service

1 credit to these members on a pro rata basis. The methodology adopted by the board
2 of trustees may be amended as necessary to ensure its actuarial soundness. The
3 retirement allowance for members providing part-time and substitute services shall
4 be calculated pursuant to Section 3 or 4 of this Act and~~KRS 161.235 or~~ 161.620,
5 as applicable, except that the provisions of KRS 161.620(3) shall not apply.
6 Members providing part-time and substitute services who meet the service
7 retirement conditions of KRS ~~161.235 or~~ 161.600~~, as applicable~~, may also be
8 eligible to participate as approved by the board of trustees in the medical insurance
9 program provided by the retirement system under KRS 161.675. Members
10 providing part-time and substitute services shall make contributions to the Kentucky
11 Teachers' Retirement System at the rate provided under KRS 161.540. A member
12 who provides part-time or substitute services, or in the event of the death of the
13 member, the member's estate or applicably designated beneficiary, will be entitled,
14 within ninety (90) days of the posting of the annual report submitted by the
15 member's employer, to a refund of contributions as permitted and limited by KRS
16 161.470;

17 (2) The board of trustees shall adopt eligibility conditions under which members
18 providing part-time and substitute services may participate in the benefits provided
19 under KRS 161.520, 161.655, 161.661, and 161.663. The board of trustees may
20 permit members providing part-time or substitute services to participate in other
21 benefits offered by the retirement system by promulgating administrative
22 regulations that establish eligibility conditions for participation in these benefits. All
23 eligibility conditions adopted by the board of trustees pursuant to this subsection
24 may be amended as necessary to ensure their actuarial soundness;

25 (3) In addition to the pro rata methodology adopted by the board of trustees under
26 subsection (1) of this section, members providing part-time and substitute services
27 shall be subject to all limitations and conditions regarding the accrual, retention,

1 accreditation, and use of service credit that apply to members providing full-time
 2 services. In addition to the eligibility conditions set forth by the board of trustees
 3 under subsection (2) of this section, members providing part-time and substitute
 4 services shall be subject to all limitations and conditions regarding both the
 5 eligibility to participate and the extent of participation in any benefit offered under
 6 KRS 161.220 to 161.716 that apply to members providing full-time services;

7 (4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section to the contrary, instructional
 8 assistants who provide teaching services in the local school districts on a full-time
 9 basis in positions covered by the County Employees Retirement System who are
 10 used as substitute teachers on an emergency basis for five (5) days or less during
 11 any one (1) fiscal year shall not be considered members of the Teachers' Retirement
 12 System during that period in which they are serving as substitute teachers for five
 13 (5) days or less;

14 (5) The board of trustees may adopt a pro rata methodology to determine the annual
 15 compensation of members providing part-time and substitute services in order to
 16 determine benefits provided under KRS 161.661 and 161.663. Members providing
 17 part-time and substitute services who had retirement contributions posted to their
 18 accounts during the previous fiscal year and who have not had those contributions
 19 refunded to them are eligible to vote for the board of trustees;

20 (6) The board of trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System shall be responsible for
 21 final determination of membership eligibility and may direct employers to take
 22 whatever action that may be necessary to correct any error relating to membership;

23 **and**

24 (7) ~~Effective January 1, 2019, this section does not apply to any individual who retires~~
 25 ~~on or after January 1, 2019, and is reemployed on or after January 1, 2019; and~~

26 ~~(8) —~~ The provisions of this section are not subject to KRS 161.714.

27 ➔ Section 34. KRS 161.615 is amended to read as follows:

- 1 (1) The board of trustees is authorized to implement a limited defined contribution plan
2 for the sole purpose of providing retirement allowance payments for retired
3 members who have been approved by the retirement system for full-time
4 reemployment as provided in KRS 161.605.
- 5 (2) The defined contribution plan shall be administered separately from the regular
6 benefits provided for members of the retirement system, except that the
7 contributions to the plan shall be invested in the same manner as other contributions
8 to the retirement system.
- 9 (3) The provisions of this section apply only to those retired members who were
10 permitted to return to work under the critical shortage provisions of KRS
11 161.605(7) as they existed on June 30, 2002. The provisions of this section shall not
12 apply to any retired member returning to work on or after July 1, 2002.
- 13 (4) Separate member accounts shall be maintained for participants in this plan which
14 shall reflect the annual contributions made to the participant's account based on the
15 rates and interest levels specified in KRS 161.605.
- 16 (5) When the retiree's reemployment terminates, the total contributions and accrued
17 interest in the participant's account will be paid in a lump-sum payment or on an
18 actuarial straight life monthly basis to the retiree. If the member dies prior to
19 making application for a retirement allowance under this plan, the beneficiary
20 designated by the participant for this plan shall receive a refund of the funds in the
21 account. If there is a remaining balance in the account at the death of the participant
22 after retirement from this plan, it shall be paid to the beneficiary designated by the
23 participant for this benefit.
- 24 (6) Retired members shall be eligible to receive their retirement annuity when approved
25 for reemployment and participation in this plan. Service as a reemployed retiree
26 may not be used in any manner for credit under the regular retirement benefit plans
27 provided by the retirement system.

1 ~~[(7) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) to (6) of this section, any plan~~
2 ~~established pursuant to this section shall, effective January 1, 2019, be closed to any~~
3 ~~future employee or employer contributions.]~~

4 ➔Section 35. KRS 161.623 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) Effective July 1, 1982, and thereafter, a district board of education or other
6 employer of members of the Teachers' Retirement System may compensate, at the
7 time of retirement for service, an active contributing member for unused sick-leave
8 days in accordance with this section.

9 (2) Upon the member's application for service retirement, the employer shall certify the
10 retiring member's unused accumulated sick-leave balance to the board of trustees of
11 the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System. The member's sick-leave balance,
12 expressed in days, shall be divided by one hundred eighty-five (185) days to
13 determine the amount of service credit that may be considered for addition to the
14 member's retirement account for the purpose of determining the retirement
15 allowance under KRS 161.620~~[, subject to the limitation of subsection (9)(a) of this~~
16 ~~section]~~. Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, sick-leave credit that is
17 accredited under this section or by one (1) of the other state-administered retirement
18 systems shall not be used for the purpose of determining whether the member is
19 eligible to receive a retirement allowance from the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
20 System.

21 (3) The board shall compute the cost to the retirement system of the sick-leave credit
22 for each retiring member and shall bill the last employer of the retiring member for
23 such cost. The employer shall pay the cost of such service credit to the retirement
24 system within fifteen (15) days after receiving notification of the cost from the
25 board.

26 (4) Retiring members who receive service credit under this section shall not be eligible
27 to receive compensation for accrued sick leave under KRS 161.155(10) or any other

1 statutory provision.

2 (5) Employer participation is optional and the employer may opt to purchase less
3 service credit than the member is eligible to receive provided the same percentage
4 of reduction is made applicable to all retiring members of the employer during a
5 school fiscal year.

6 (6) The board of trustees shall formulate and adopt necessary rules and regulations for
7 the administration of the foregoing provisions.

8 (7) Payments to the retirement system for service credit obtained under this section or
9 for compensation credit obtained under KRS 161.155(10) shall be based on the full
10 actuarial cost as defined in KRS 161.220(22).

11 (8) For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008, the maximum
12 amount of unused accumulated sick leave that may be considered for addition to the
13 member's retirement account for purposes of determining the retirement allowance
14 under KRS 161.620 shall not exceed three hundred (300) days~~[- or the amount~~
15 ~~specified by subsection (9)(a) of this section].~~

16 ~~[(9) Notwithstanding any other provision of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 to the contrary:~~

17 ~~(a) The maximum amount of sick leave converted to additional service credit~~
18 ~~under the provisions of this section shall not exceed the service credit based~~
19 ~~upon the level of sick leave accumulated on December 31, 2018, by a member~~
20 ~~whose employer participates in the sick leave program authorized by this~~
21 ~~section; and~~

22 ~~(b) On or after August 1, 2018, no employers may opt to participate in the sick~~
23 ~~leave program authorized by this section.]~~

24 ➔Section 36. KRS 161.630 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
25 follows:

26 (1) (a) ~~[An individual who became]~~A member~~[- prior to January 1, 2019]~~, upon
27 retirement, shall receive a retirement allowance in the form of a life annuity,

1 with refundable balance, as provided in KRS 161.620, unless an election is
 2 made before the effective date of retirement to receive actuarially equivalent
 3 benefits under options which the board of trustees approves.

4 (b) An individual who is participating in the supplemental benefit
 5 component~~[hybrid cash balance plan]~~ as provided by Section 3 or 4 of this
 6 Act~~[KRS 161.235]~~ may, before the effective date of retirement, elect to
 7 receive his or her accumulated account balance accrued in the supplemental
 8 benefit component annuitized into a monthly payment under one (1) of the
 9 actuarial equivalent payment options approved by the board of trustees.

10 (c) No option shall provide for a benefit with an actuarial value at the age of
 11 retirement greater than that provided in subsection (5)(a) of Section 3 of this
 12 Act, subsection (5)(a) of Section 4 of this Act,~~[KRS 161.235(7)(a)]~~ or
 13 161.620, as applicable. This section does not apply to disability allowances as
 14 provided in KRS 161.661(1).

15 (2) The retirement option chosen by a retiree at the time of service retirement shall
 16 remain in force unless the retiree ~~[became a member prior to January 1, 2019, and~~
 17 ~~]elects to make a change under the following conditions:~~

18 (a) A divorce, annulment, or marriage dissolution following retirement shall, at
 19 the election of the retiree, cancel any optional plan selected at retirement that
 20 provides continuing benefits to a spousal beneficiary and return the retiree to a
 21 single lifetime benefit equivalent as determined by the board; or

22 (b) Following marriage or remarriage, or the death of the designated beneficiary, a
 23 retiree may elect a new optional plan of payment based on the actuarial
 24 equivalent of a single lifetime benefit at the time of the election, as determined
 25 by the board. The plan shall become effective the first of the month following
 26 receipt of an application on a form approved by the board.

27 (3) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a beneficiary designation shall not be

1 changed after the effective date of retirement except for retirees who elect the life
2 annuity with refundable balance or the predetermined years certain and life
3 thereafter option. A member may remove a beneficiary at any time, but shall not
4 designate a substitute beneficiary. If a member elects to remove a beneficiary, the
5 member's retirement allowance shall not change regardless of the retirement option
6 selected by the member, even if the removed beneficiary predeceases the member.

7 (4) A member who experiences a qualifying event under subsection (2) of this section
8 and who elects a new optional plan of payment shall make that election within sixty
9 (60) days of the qualifying event.

10 ➔Section 37. KRS 161.661 is repealed, reenacted, and amended to read as
11 follows:

12 (1) Any member who has completed five (5) or more years of accredited service in the
13 public schools of Kentucky after July 1, 1941, may retire for disability and be
14 granted a disability allowance if found to be eligible as provided in this section.
15 Application for disability benefits shall be made within one (1) year of the last
16 contributing service in Kentucky, and the disability must have occurred during the
17 most recent period of employment in a position covered by the Teachers' Retirement
18 System and subsequent to the completion of five (5) years of teaching service in
19 Kentucky. A disability occurring during the regular vacation immediately following
20 the last period of active service in Kentucky or during an official leave for which
21 the member is entitled to make regular contributions to the retirement system, shall
22 be considered as having occurred during a period of active service. The annual
23 disability allowance shall be equal to sixty percent (60%) of the member's final
24 average salary. ~~Individuals who became~~ Members ~~[prior to January 1, 2019,]~~ who
25 have twenty-seven (27) or more years of service credit are eligible for service
26 retirement only. ~~Individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2019,~~
27 ~~who have met the requirements of KRS 161.235(6)(b) shall be eligible for service~~

1 ~~retirement only.]~~

2 (2) The provisions of KRS 161.520, 161.525, and subsections (3), (4), and (5) of this
3 section shall not apply to disability retirees whose benefits were calculated on the
4 service retirement formula nor to survivors of these members.

5 (3) Members shall earn one (1) year of entitlement to disability retirement, at sixty
6 percent (60%) of the member's final average salary, for each four (4) years of
7 service in a covered position, but any member meeting the service requirement for
8 disability retirement shall be credited with no less than five (5) years of eligibility.

9 (4) A member retired by reason of disability shall continue to earn service credit at the
10 rate of one (1) year for each year retired for disability. This service shall be credited
11 to the member's account at the expiration of entitlement as defined in subsection (3)
12 of this section, or when the member's eligibility for disability benefits is terminated
13 upon recommendation of a medical review committee, and this service shall be used
14 in calculating benefits as provided in subsection (5) of this section, but under no
15 circumstances shall this service be used to provide the member with more than
16 twenty-seven (27) years of total service credit~~[or the level of service credit needed~~
17 ~~to meet the requirements of KRS 161.235(6)(b), as applicable].~~ The service credit
18 shall be valued at the same level as service earned by active members as provided
19 under KRS ~~[161.235,]~~161.600~~[,]~~ or 161.620~~[, as applicable. Members participating~~
20 ~~in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 161.235 shall also be credited~~
21 ~~with employer credits and interest credits for each year of service earned under the~~
22 ~~provisions of this subsection based upon the salary in which the last employer credit~~
23 ~~was paid. Payments during the entitlement period as specified by subsection (3) of~~
24 ~~this section shall not reduce the accumulated account balance of a member~~
25 ~~participating in the hybrid cash balance plan].~~

26 (5) Any member retired by reason of disability and remaining disabled at the expiration
27 of the entitlement period shall have his disability benefits recalculated using the

1 service retirement formula with service credit~~[and any additional accumulated~~
2 ~~account balance]~~ earned as set out in subsection (4) of this section. ~~[For persons~~
3 ~~who became members prior to January 1, 2019,]~~The retirement allowance shall be
4 calculated as set forth in KRS 161.620, except that those persons less than sixty
5 (60) years of age shall be considered as sixty (60) years of age. ~~[For persons who~~
6 ~~become members on or after January 1, 2019, the retirement allowance or benefit~~
7 ~~shall be calculated as set forth in KRS 161.235, except that those persons less than~~
8 ~~age sixty five (65) shall be considered as sixty five (65) years of age.]~~Members
9 having their disability benefits recalculated under this subsection shall not be
10 entitled to a benefit based upon an average of their three (3) highest salaries as set
11 forth in KRS 161.220(9), unless approved otherwise by the board of trustees.

12 (6) Members who have their disability retirement allowance recalculated at the
13 expiration of the entitlement period shall continue to have coverage under the post-
14 retirement medical insurance program. Restrictions on employment shall remain in
15 effect until the member attains age seventy (70) or until the member's eligibility is
16 discontinued. KRS 161.520 and 161.525 shall not apply to survivors of disability
17 retirees whose retirement allowances have been recalculated at the expiration of the
18 entitlement period. Members who have their disability retirement allowance
19 recalculated at the expiration of their entitlement period shall be entitled to a
20 minimum monthly allowance of five hundred dollars (\$500) as the basic straight life
21 annuity. The minimum allowance shall be effective July 1, 1992, and shall apply to
22 those members who have had their allowance recalculated prior to that date and to
23 disability retirees who will have their benefit allowance recalculated on or after that
24 date.

25 (7) Effective July 1, 1992, members retired for disability prior to July 1, 1964, shall be
26 entitled to a minimum monthly allowance of five hundred dollars (\$500) as their
27 basic straight life annuity and their surviving spouse shall be eligible for survivor

- 1 benefits as provided in KRS 161.520(1)(a) and (b).
- 2 (8) Any member retired by reason of disability may voluntarily waive disability benefits
3 and return to teaching or any ~~[individual who became a]member[prior to January~~
4 ~~1, 2019]~~, who is age sixty (60) years or older, may elect to waive disability benefits
5 and retire for service on the basis of service credited to the member on the effective
6 date of the disability retirement~~[, or any individual who becomes a member on or~~
7 ~~after January 1, 2019, who is sixty five (65) years of age or older, may elect to~~
8 ~~waive disability benefits and retire for service on the basis of his or her accumulated~~
9 ~~account balance and service credited to the member on the effective date of~~
10 ~~disability retirement]~~.
- 11 (9) In order to qualify for retirement by reason of disability a member must suffer from
12 a physical or mental condition presumed to be permanent in duration and of a nature
13 as to render the member incapable of being gainfully employed in a covered
14 position. The incapability must be revealed by a competent examination by a
15 licensed physician or physicians and must be approved by a majority of a medical
16 review committee.
- 17 (10) A member retired by reason of disability shall be required to undergo periodic
18 examinations at the discretion of the board of trustees to determine whether the
19 disability allowance shall be continued. When examination and recommendation of
20 a medical review committee indicate the disability no longer exists, the allowance
21 shall be discontinued.
- 22 (11) Eligibility for payment shall begin on the first day of the month following receipt of
23 the application in the Teachers' Retirement System office, or the first of the month
24 next following the last payment of salary or sick leave benefits by the employer,
25 whichever is the later date.
- 26 (12) No person who receives a disability allowance may be employed in a position that
27 entails duties or qualification requirements similar to positions subject to

1 participation in the retirement system either within or without the State of
2 Kentucky. So doing shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall result in loss of the
3 allowance from the first date of this service. A member who applies for and is
4 approved for disability retirement on or after July 1, 2002, and whose annual
5 disability benefit is less than forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) may earn income in
6 any occupation other than covered employment only to the extent that the annual
7 income from the other employment when added to the annual disability benefit does
8 not exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000). For any member who exceeds this
9 limit as a result of income from other employment, the Kentucky Teachers'
10 Retirement System shall reduce the member's disability benefit on a dollar-for-
11 dollar basis for each dollar that the member's combined annual disability benefit and
12 annual income from other employment exceeds forty thousand dollars (\$40,000).
13 The board of trustees may annually increase the forty thousand dollar (\$40,000)
14 limit by the percentage increase in the annual average of the consumer price index
15 for all urban consumers for the most recent calendar year as published by the
16 Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, not to exceed five percent (5%).

17 (13) All members who applied for disability retirement before July 1, 2002, and were
18 approved as a result of that application shall be subject to the income limitations as
19 they existed on June 30, 2002, until July 1, 2006. Effective July 1, 2006, the twenty-
20 seven thousand dollar (\$27,000) limitation shall be increased to forty thousand
21 dollars (\$40,000) and may be adjusted by the board of trustees by the consumer
22 price index in the manner described in subsection (12) of this section. The recipient
23 of a disability allowance who engages in any gainful occupation other than covered
24 employment must make a report of the duties involved, compensation received, and
25 any other pertinent information required by the board of trustees.

26 (14) The board of trustees shall designate medical review committees, each consisting of
27 three (3) licensed physicians. A medical review committee shall pass upon all

1 applications for disability retirement and upon all applicant statements, medical
2 certifications, and examinations submitted in connection with disability
3 applications. The disposition of each case shall be recommended by a medical
4 review committee in writing to the retirement system. Members of a medical review
5 committee shall follow administrative regulations regarding procedures as the board
6 of trustees may enact and shall be paid reasonable fees and expenses as authorized
7 by the board of trustees in compliance with the provisions of KRS 161.330 and
8 161.340. The retirement system may secure additional medical examinations and
9 information as it deems necessary. A member may appeal any final agency decision
10 denying his or her disability retirement application pursuant to the provisions of
11 KRS 161.250(2).

12 (15) A disability may be presumed to be permanent if the condition creating the
13 disability may be reasonably expected to continue for one (1) year or more from the
14 date of application for disability benefits.

15 (16) Any member who has voluntarily waived disability benefits or whose disability
16 benefits have been discontinued on recommendation of a medical review
17 committee, may apply for reinstatement of disability benefits. The application for
18 reinstatement must be made to the retirement system within twelve (12) months of
19 the date disability benefits terminated. If the termination of benefits were voluntary,
20 the reinstatement may be made without medical examination if application is made
21 within three (3) months of the termination date. Other applications for reinstatement
22 will be processed in the same manner as new applications for benefits.

23 (17) No person who is receiving disability benefits under this section may be employed
24 in a position which qualifies the person for membership in a retirement system
25 financed wholly or in part with public funds. Employment in a position prohibited
26 by this subsection shall result in disqualification for those disability benefits from
27 the date of employment in the prohibited position.

1 (18) Any person who is receiving benefits and becomes disqualified from receiving
 2 those benefits under this section, or becomes disqualified from receiving a portion
 3 of those benefits due to income from other than covered employment, shall
 4 immediately notify the Teachers' Retirement System of this disqualification in
 5 writing and shall return all benefits paid after the date of disqualification. Failure to
 6 comply with these provisions shall create an indebtedness of that person to the
 7 Teachers' Retirement System. Interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum
 8 shall be charged if the debt is not repaid within sixty (60) days after the date of
 9 disqualification. Failure to repay this debt creates a lien in favor of the Teachers'
 10 Retirement System upon all property of the person who improperly receives benefits
 11 and does not repay those benefits. The Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may,
 12 in order to collect an outstanding debt, reduce or terminate any benefit that a
 13 member is otherwise entitled to receive.

14 **(19) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, individuals**
 15 **who become members on or after January 1, 2022, shall be eligible for an**
 16 **actuarially determined disability benefit as prescribed by the board of trustees via**
 17 **administrative regulations promulgated by the board. The board of trustees shall**
 18 **arrange by appropriate contract or on a self-insured basis a disability plan to**
 19 **provide the disability benefits and may adjust the benefits in accordance with**
 20 **subsection (3) of Section 1 of this Act or subsection (3) of Section 2 of this Act.**

21 ➔Section 38. KRS 161.650 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

22 (1) In the case of death of a member who has retired by reason of service or disability,
 23 any portion of the member's accumulated contributions, including member
 24 contributions to the state accumulation fund and regular interest to the date of
 25 retirement, that has not, and will not be paid as an allowance or benefit shall be paid
 26 to the member's beneficiary in such manner as the board of trustees elects.

27 (2) The member may designate a primary beneficiary or two (2) or more cobeneficiaries

1 to receive any remaining accumulated member contributions payable under this
2 section. A contingent beneficiary may be designated in addition to the primary
3 beneficiary or the cobeneficiaries. The member may designate two (2) or more
4 contingent beneficiaries. To the extent permitted by the Internal Revenue Code, a
5 trust may be designated as beneficiary for receipt of any remaining funds of the
6 member's accumulated contributions. Members may designate as beneficiaries only
7 presently identifiable and existing individuals, or trusts where otherwise permitted,
8 without contingency instructions, on forms prescribed by the retirement system.
9 Cobeneficiaries shall be composed of a single class of individuals, or trusts where
10 permitted, who will share in equal proportions in any payment that may become
11 available under this section. Any beneficiary designation made by the member shall
12 remain in effect until changed by the member on forms prescribed by the retirement
13 system, except in the event of subsequent divorce. A final divorce decree shall
14 terminate the beneficiary status of an ex-spouse unless, subsequent to divorce, the
15 member redesignates the former spouse as a beneficiary. A final divorce decree
16 shall not terminate the designation of a trust as beneficiary regardless of who is
17 designated as beneficiary of the trust. In the event that the member fails to designate
18 a beneficiary or all designated beneficiaries predecease the member, any remaining
19 accumulated member contributions shall be payable to the member's estate.

20 ➔Section 39. KRS 161.700 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

- 21 (1) Except as otherwise provided by this section and KRS 161.655(5), the right of a
22 member to a retirement allowance and to the return of contributions, any benefit or
23 right accrued or accruing to any person under KRS 161.220 to 161.716, and the
24 money in the various funds established pursuant to KRS 161.220 to 161.716 are
25 hereby exempt from any state or municipal tax, and shall not be subject to
26 execution, garnishment, attachment, or other process, and shall not be assigned.
- 27 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, retirement benefits accrued or

1 accruing to any person under this retirement system on or after January 1, 1998,
2 shall be subject to the tax imposed by KRS 141.020, to the extent provided in KRS
3 141.010 and 141.0215.

4 (3) Retirement allowance, disability allowance, accumulated account balance, or any
5 other benefit under the retirement system shall not be classified as marital property
6 pursuant to KRS 403.190(1), except to the extent permitted under KRS 403.190(4).
7 Retirement allowance, disability allowance, accumulated contributions, or any other
8 benefit under the retirement system shall not be considered as an economic
9 circumstance during the division of marital property in an action for dissolution of
10 marriage pursuant to KRS 403.190(1)(d), except to the extent permitted under KRS
11 403.190(4).

12 (4) Qualified domestic relations orders issued by a court or administrative agency shall
13 be honored by the retirement system if:

14 (a) The benefits payable pursuant to the order meet the requirements of a
15 qualified domestic relations order as provided by 26 U.S.C. sec. 414(p). The
16 retirement system shall follow applicable provisions of 26 U.S.C. sec. 414(p)
17 in administering qualified domestic relations orders;

18 (b) The order meets the requirements established by the retirement system and by
19 subsections (4) to (12) of this section. The board of trustees of the retirement
20 system shall establish the requirements, procedures, and forms necessary for
21 the administration of qualified domestic relations order by promulgation of
22 administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A; and

23 (c) The order is on the form established by the retirement system pursuant to the
24 retirement system's authority provided under paragraph (b) of this subsection.

25 (5) A qualified domestic relations order shall not:

26 (a) Require the retirement system to take any action not authorized under state or
27 federal law;

- 1 (b) Require the retirement system to provide any benefit, allowance, or other
2 payment not authorized under state or federal law;
- 3 (c) Grant or be construed to grant the alternate payee any separate right, title, or
4 interest in or to any retirement benefit other than to receive payments from the
5 participant's account in accordance with the administrative regulations
6 promulgated by the system and as provided by subsections (4) to (12) of this
7 section; or
- 8 (d) Grant any separate interest to any person other than the participant.
- 9 (6) Any qualified domestic relations order submitted to the retirement system shall
10 specify the dollar amount or percentage amount of the participant's benefit to be
11 paid to the alternate payee. In calculating the amount to be paid to the alternate
12 payee, the court or administrative agency that is responsible for issuing the order
13 shall follow the requirements set forth in the administrative regulations promulgated
14 by the board of trustees. Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, the board
15 shall not be required to honor a qualified domestic relations order that does not
16 follow the requirements set forth in the administrative regulations promulgated by
17 the board of trustees.
- 18 (7) If the qualified domestic relations order meets the requirements established by the
19 system and by subsections (4) to (12) of this section, payments to the alternate
20 payee shall be distributed under the following conditions:
- 21 (a) If the participant is retired and is receiving a monthly retirement allowance,
22 the month following the date the retirement system receives a qualified
23 domestic relations order that complies with the administrative regulations
24 promulgated by the retirement system and subsections (4) to (12) of this
25 section; or
- 26 (b) If the participant is not retired, the month of the participant's effective
27 retirement date in which the first retirement allowance is payable to the

1 participant or the month in which the participant receives a refund of his or
2 her accumulated account balance as provided by KRS 161.470(6).

3 (8) An alternate payee's benefits and rights under a qualified domestic relations order
4 shall terminate upon the earlier of:

5 (a) The death of the participant;

6 (b) The death of the alternate payee; or

7 (c) The termination of benefits to the participant under any provision of KRS
8 161.220 to 161.716.

9 (9) An alternate payee shall not receive a monthly payment under a qualified domestic
10 relations order if the participant is not receiving a monthly retirement allowance.

11 (10) The cost of living adjustment provided to the participant pursuant to KRS 161.620
12 shall be divided between the participant and alternate payee in a qualified domestic
13 relations order as follows:

14 (a) If the order specifies the alternate payee is to receive a percentage of the
15 participant's benefit, then the cost of living adjustment shall be divided
16 between the participant and the alternate payee based upon the percentage of
17 the total benefit each is receiving upon the participant's retirement or upon the
18 date the order is approved by the retirement system, whichever is later; or

19 (b) If the order specifies that the alternate payee is to receive a set dollar amount
20 of the participant's benefit, then the order shall specify that:

21 1. The cost of living adjustment shall be divided between the participant
22 and the alternate payee based upon the percentage of the total benefit
23 each is receiving upon the participant's retirement or upon the date the
24 order is approved by the retirement system, whichever is later; or

25 2. The alternate payee shall receive no cost of living adjustment.

26 If the order does not specify the division of the cost of living adjustment as
27 required by this paragraph, then no cost of living adjustment shall be payable

1 to the alternate payee. If no cost of living adjustment is provided to the
 2 alternate payee, then the participant shall receive the full cost of living
 3 adjustment he or she would have received if the order had not been applied to
 4 the participant's account.

5 (11) Except in cases involving child support payments, the retirement system may charge
 6 reasonable and necessary fees and expenses to the recipient and the alternate payee
 7 of a qualified domestic relations order for the administration of the qualified
 8 domestic relations order by retirement system. All fees and expenses shall be
 9 established by the administrative regulations promulgated by the board of trustees
 10 of the retirement system. The qualified domestic relations order shall specify
 11 whether the fees and expenses provided by this subsection shall be paid:

- 12 (a) Solely by the participant;
- 13 (b) Solely by the alternate payee; or
- 14 (c) Equally shared by the participant and alternate payee.

15 (12) The retirement system shall honor a qualified domestic relations order issued prior
 16 to July 15, 2010, for prospective benefit payments if the order or an amended
 17 version of the order meets the requirements established by this section and the
 18 administrative regulations promulgated by the retirement system. The order shall
 19 not apply to benefit payments issued by the retirement system prior to the date the
 20 order was approved by the retirement system.

21 ➔Section 40. KRS 161.714 is amended to read as follows:

22 ~~[(1) For persons who became members in the Teachers' Retirement System prior to~~
 23 ~~January 1, 2019,]~~It is hereby declared that in consideration of the contributions by
 24 members and in further consideration of benefits received by the state from the member's
 25 employment, KRS 161.220 to 161.710 shall constitute, **except as provided in KRS 6.696,**
 26 an inviolable contract of the Commonwealth, and the benefits provided herein, **except as**
 27 **provided in KRS 6.696,** shall not be subject to reduction or impairment by alteration,

1 amendment, or repeal,] except:

2 (a) ~~As provided in KRS 6.696; and~~

3 (b) ~~The General Assembly reserves the right to amend, reduce, or suspend any~~
4 ~~legislative changes to the provisions of KRS 161.220 to 161.716 that become~~
5 ~~effective on or after July 1, 2018.~~

6 (2) (a) ~~For persons who become members in the Teachers' Retirement System on or~~
7 ~~after January 1, 2019, the General Assembly reserves the right to amend,~~
8 ~~suspend, or reduce the benefits and rights provided under KRS 161.220 to~~
9 ~~161.716 if, in its judgment, the welfare of the Commonwealth so demands,~~
10 ~~except that the amount of benefits the member has accrued at the time of~~
11 ~~amendment, suspension, or reduction shall not be affected.~~

12 (b) ~~For purposes of this subsection, the amount of benefits the member has~~
13 ~~accrued at the time of any amendment, suspension, or reduction shall be~~
14 ~~limited to the accumulated account balance the member has accrued at the~~
15 ~~time of amendment, suspension, or reduction.~~

16 (c) ~~The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to limit the General~~
17 ~~Assembly's authority to change any other benefit or right specified by KRS~~
18 ~~161.220 to 161.716, except the benefits specified by paragraph (b) of this~~
19 ~~subsection for members who begin participating in the Teachers' Retirement~~
20 ~~System on or after January 1, 2019.~~

21 (3) ~~The provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the General Assembly's~~
22 ~~authority to amend, reduce, or suspend the benefits and rights of members of the~~
23 ~~Teachers' Retirement System as provided by KRS 161.220 to 161.716 that the~~
24 ~~General Assembly had the authority to amend, reduce, or suspend, prior to July 1,~~
25 ~~2018.]~~

26 ➔ Section 41. The following KRS section is repealed:

27 161.235 Establishment of hybrid cash balance plan for new Teachers' Retirement

1 System members who begin participating on or after January 1, 2019 -- TRS
2 members with fewer than five years of service may elect participation. (Declared
3 void -- See LRC Note Below)

4 ➔Section 42. The Teachers' Retirement System shall, on or before November 1,
5 2021, submit recommendations to the Public Pension Oversight Board regarding how and
6 when any future actuarial gains in the new tier of benefits for members entering the
7 system on or after January 1, 2022, could be used to restore any benefits previously
8 reduced by the TRS board for the foundational benefit under the risk controls established
9 by Sections 1 and 2 of this Act or distributed to these members in the form of additional
10 contributions to the supplemental benefit component. The recommendations provided by
11 this section shall include but not be limited to the funding level necessary before the
12 board can consider restoring benefits or distributing contributions to the supplemental
13 benefit component and the first fiscal year in which the board could take action.

14 ➔Section 43. Sections 1 to 41 of this Act shall take effect January 1, 2022.